

Bodies of the SNSF

The Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) is a foundation with a public funding mandate.

Foundation Council

Members	Men	Women
40	52%	48%

As the SNSF's governing body, the **Foundation Council** ensures that the SNSF stays on mission. It supervises the activities of the bodies of the SNSF. Based on a recommendation from the National Research Council, it endorses the main pillars of the SNSF's funding policy, in particular the multi-year programme. The Foundation Council is responsible for approving the financial statement and the annual report.

Executive Committee of the Foundation Council

Members	Men	Women
15	47%	53%

The **Executive Committee** prepares the agenda of the Foundation Council and directly supervises the activities of the National Research Council and the Administrative Offices. It elects the members of the Research Council and – together with the president of the Research Council – the directors of the Administrative Offices. The Executive Committee also approves new funding schemes as well as the service level agreement with the Swiss government.

National Research Council

Members	Men	Women
95	64%	36%

The **National Research Council** is the scientific body of the SNSF. It is responsible for the evaluation of research proposals and for the final funding decisions. The preparatory work for these decisions is done by evaluation bodies appointed by the Council. Two important specialised bodies, the Gender Equality Commission and the Scientific Integrity Commission, support the Research Council in its work.

The eight-member strong Presiding Board presides over the Research Council. Its core task is to ensure that the funding decisions are made according to the highest quality standards. In addition, the Presiding Board discusses science policy and devises the research funding policies of the SNSF.

Administrative Offices

Employees*	Men	Women
284	40%	60%

The **Administrative Offices** support the bodies of the SNSF and coordinate their activities. They are responsible for all administrative matters as well as for the SNSF's national and international networking activities and communication. The core business of the Administrative Offices is organising the selection procedures for SNSF fundingschemes – from calls for proposals to the evaluation process to the implementation of decisions taken by the Research Council.

* 238 full-time equivalent positions

Gender Equality Commission
Commission on Research Integrity

Evaluation bodies

Around 800 experts work in 70 evaluation bodies, approximately a third of them women.

Research Commissions

The activities of the **Research Commissions** at Swiss universities are aimed at promoting the next generation of researchers, particularly within the scope of the SNSF's mobility fellowships for doctoral and postdoctoral students.

Auditors

The Swiss Federal Audit Office is the independent **auditing body**. It examines the accounts and the annual statement of the SNSF to ensure compliance with the law and with the foundation's Statutes.

The Administrative Offices in 2019

10,763

external reviews

184

evaluation meetings

In 2019, the Administrative Offices conducted evaluation processes for 6,852 grant applications and obtained 10,763 reviews from external experts.

The National Research Council and its evaluation bodies discussed the applications in 184 meetings. 395 researchers received an invitation to present their project in an interview. The Administrative Offices organised the meetings and interviews and implemented the decisions of the Research Council. During the year, they received 8,361 scientific and financial reports and 9,611 administrative messages. For the first time, the Administrative Offices issued a call for the funding schemes SPIRIT and Spark. SPIRIT promotes cross-border and team-oriented projects with countries of the Global South. Spark finances original projects of short duration.

The Administrative Offices also started the large-scale AARE project to enhance SNSF research funding. The project will examine processes and IT systems with the aim of further simplifying them and making them more flexible.

The SNSF's new building project will also bring a major change. The premises at the current location are in a residential neighbourhood in Bern. Spread across five buildings, they do not offer enough space and no longer meet the needs of the Administrative Offices, the Research Council and evaluation bodies. For this reason, the SNSF is planning to build new offices in the development area Wankdorf, which belongs to the city of Bern. After in-depth evaluation, the Administrative Offices invited tenders for a study mandate from architecture firms at the end of 2019. Operations are expected to start from the new premises in 2023.

Five apprentices completed their training in commerce (some with a higher education entrance qualification) or mediamatics. At the end of last year, there were thirteen apprentices and four academic interns at the SNSF.

The public research database P³ was queried more than 100,000 times during 2019. It contains detailed information on the projects funded by the SNSF since 1975.

The Administrative Offices published 92 news articles and 37 calls for proposals, and dispatched 18 newsletters to 23,000 recipients. Over 20,000 people followed the SNSF on Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and Facebook. In all, the SNSF's social media contributions were viewed three million times.

8,361

reports by researchers

9,611

administrative messages
from researchers

Foundation Council (31.1.2020)

A general election of the Foundation Council was held for the 2020–2023 period of office. The newly constituted Council elected its President and Vice President, Executive Committee and co-opted members as of 31 January 2020.

President

Jürg Stahl (from 1.2.2020)

Prof Felicitas Pauss, representative of SCNAT (until 31.12.2019, president ad interim)

Vice President

Prof Maria Schönbächler (from 1.2.2020), representative of SCNAT

Representatives of scientific organisations

Cantonal Universities → **Basel:** Prof Torsten Schwede. **Bern:** Prof Daniel Candinas. **Fribourg:** Prof Katharina Fromm. **Geneva:** Prof Dominique Soldati-Favre. **Lausanne:** Prof Franciska Krings. **Lucerne:** Prof Gisela Michel. **Neuchâtel:** Prof Simona Pekarek Doeher. **St. Gallen:** Prof Kuno Schedler (until 31.1.2020), Prof Thomas Markus Zellweger (from 1.2.2020). **Ticino:** Prof Benedetto Lepori. **Zurich:** Prof Stefanie Walter.

Term of office ended 31.12.2019: Prof Edwin Ch. Constable (Basel), Prof Thomas Hunkeler (Fribourg), Prof Alexander Trechsel (Lucerne).

Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology → **Lausanne:** Prof Sabine Süssstrunk. **Zurich:** Prof Sabine Werner.

Universities of applied sciences/universities of teacher education → Prof Horst Biedermann (PH SG), Prof Maria Caiata Zufferey (SUPSI), Prof Markus Hodel (HSLU), Prof Jürg Kessler (FHGR), Prof Isabelle Mili (IUFE Geneva), Prof Jean-Marc Piveteau (ZHAW), Prof Falko Schlottig (FHNW), Dr Luciana Vaccaro (HES-SO).

Term of office ended 31.12.2019: Prof Barbara Fontanellaz (FHS-SG), Prof Thomas D. Meier (ZHdK), Prof Guillaume Vanhulst (HEP-VD).

Academies → **Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences:** Prof Antonio Loprieno.

SAHS: Prof Claudine Burton-Jeangros. **SAMS:** Prof em. Daniel Scheidegger.

SATW: Prof Konstantinos Boulochos. **SCNAT:** Prof Maria Schönbächler, Prof Marcel Tanner.

Term of office ended 31.8.2019: Dr Monica Duca Widmer (SATW)

Term of office ended 31.12.2019: Prof Felicitas Pauss (SCNAT).

Government-appointed members

Prof Cesla Amarelle (Canton of Vaud, Dept. of Education, Youth and Culture), Dr Gregor Haefliger (SERI), Dr René Imhof (F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG), Monika Knill (Canton of Thurgau, Dept. of Education and Culture), Ulrich Jakob Looser (BLR & Partners AG), Jürg Stahl (Swiss Olympic), Natascha Wey (VPOD).

Term of office ended 31.12.2019: Judith Bucher (VPOD), Prof Barbara Haering, Anne-Catherine Lyon (Swiss Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Education [EDK], former member of cantonal government Vaud).

Co-opted members

Prof Ron Appel (SIB), Prof Denis Duboule (University of Geneva and EPFL), Katharina Prautsch (actionuni), Dr Pascale Vonmont (Gebert-Rüf Stiftung, free co-optation); from 1.2.2020: Dr Thierry Strässle (ETH Domain), Prof Michael Hengartner (ETH Board), Dr Anne Crausaz (swissuniversities).

Term of office ended 31.11.2019: Dr Fritz Schiesser (ETH Board)

Term of office ended 31.12.2019: Prof Janet Hering (ETH Domain), Prof Werner Wicki (swissuniversities).

Executive Committee

Jürg Stahl; Prof Maria Schönbächler; Prof Horst Biedermann, Prof Daniel Candinas, Prof Denis Duboule, Prof Katharina Fromm, Dr Gregor Haefliger, Prof Franciska Krings, Ulrich Jakob Looser, Prof Torsten Schwede, Prof Dominique Soldati-Favre, Prof Sabine Süssstrunk, Dr Luciana Vaccaro, Prof Stefanie Walter, Prof Sabine Werner.

Term of office ended 31.12.2019: Prof Edwin Constable, Prof Felicitas Pauss, Prof Kuno Schedler.

Internal Audit

T+R SA, Gümligen BE.

Compliance Committee

Prof Franciska Krings (President); Prof em. Klaus Müller, Prof Howard Riezman, Prof Monika Roth, Dr Dorothea Sturn.

National Research Council

President

Prof Matthias Egger

Presiding Board → Prof Matthias Egger. **President Division I:** Prof Ola Söderström. **President Division II:** Prof Arjen K. Lenstra. **President Division III:** Prof Hugues Abriel. **President Division IV:** Prof Katharina M. Fromm (deputy of RC President until 31.12.2019). **President Specialised Committee Careers:** Prof Fritz Schlunegger. **President Specialised Committee International Cooperation:** Prof Katharina Michaelowa. **President Specialised Committee Interdisciplinary Research:** Prof Rita Franceschini.

Division I: Humanities and Social Sciences → Prof Ola Söderström (President); Prof Madeleine Herren-Oesch (Vice President); Prof Peter Auer, Prof Laura Bernardi, Prof Claudio Bolzman (until 30.9.2019), Prof Roberto Caldara, Prof Franz Caspar, Prof Véronique Dasen, Prof Christiana Fountoulakis, Prof Rita Franceschini, Prof Dario Gamboni (until 30.9.2019), Prof Julia Gelshorn (from 1.10.2019), Prof Daniel Gredig (from 1.10.2019), Prof Eszter Hargittai, Prof Ben Jann (from 1.10.2019), Prof Katharina Maag Merki, Prof Claudia Mareis, Prof Ioannis Papadopoulos, Prof Gabriele Rippl (from 1.10.2019), Prof Jörg Rössel (until 30.9.2019), Prof Dominic Rohner (from 1.10.2019), Prof Konrad Schmid, Prof Sabine Schneider (until 30.9.2019), Prof Paul Söderlind (until 30.9.2019), Prof Martin Spann, Prof Danièle Tosato-Rigo, Prof Georg von Krogh (until 31.12.2019), Prof Markus Wild.

Division II: Mathematics, Natural and Engineering Sciences → Prof Arjen K. Lenstra (President); Prof Thomas Gehrmann (Vice President until 4.11.2019), Dr Bernd Gotsmann (Vice President from 5.11.2019); Prof Rémi Abgrall, Prof David Andrew Barry, Prof Eva Bayer-Flückiger (until 31.12.2019), Prof Christian Bernhard (until 30.9.2019), Prof Aude Billard, Prof Jeffrey Bode (from 1.10.2019), Dr Marc Böhner, Prof Joachim Buhmann, Prof Paul Dyson, Prof Karl Gademann, Prof Christoph Heinrich (until 31.12.2019), Prof Juliane Hollender, Prof Samuel Leutwyler (until 30.9.2019), Prof Ulrike Lohmann, Prof Marcel Mayor (until 30.9.2019), Prof Frédéric Merkt (from 1.10.2019), Prof Jean-François Molinari (from 1.10.2019), Prof Oscar Nierstrasz, Prof Daniela Rubatto (from 1.10.2019), Prof Fritz Schlunegger, Prof Olivier Schneider, Prof Thomas Südmeyer, Prof Donna Testerman (from 1.10.2019), Prof Lothar Thiele.

Division III: Biology and Medicine → Prof Hugues Abriel (President); Prof Matthias Peter (Vice President); Prof Markus Affolter, Prof Anne Angelillo-Scherrer, Prof Melanie Blokesch (from 1.4.2019), Prof Chris Boesch, Prof Bart Deplancke, Prof Dominique De Quervain, Prof Michael Detmar, Prof Olivier Devuyst, Prof Marc Yves Donath, Prof Laurent Excoffier, Prof Markus Fischer, Prof Cem Gabay (until 30.6.2019), Prof Michel Gilliet (from 1.10.2019), Prof Fritjof Helmchen, Prof Christoph Hess, Prof Petra Hüppi, Prof Beat Keller, Prof Hanna Kokko, Prof Claudia Kühni, Prof Kaspar Locher, Prof Andreas Lüthi, Prof Oliver Mühlemann, Prof Adrian Franz Ochsenbein, Prof Anita Rauch, Prof Federica Sallusto, Prof Peter Scheiffele (from 1.10.2019), Prof Isabelle Schmitt-Opitz (from 1.4.2019), Prof Bernard Thorens, Prof Hanns Ulrich Zeilhofer (until 30.9.2019), Prof Rolf Zeller.

Division IV: Programmes → Prof Katharina M. Fromm (President until 31.12.2019); Prof Regina Elisabeth Aebi-Müller (Vice President); Prof Anastasia Ailamaki, Prof Uschi Backes-Gellner, Prof Manfred Max Bergman, Prof Claudia Binder, Prof Susanna Burghartz, Prof Friedrich Eisenbrand, Prof Anna Fontcuberta i Morral, Prof Gudela Grote (from 1.1.2019), Prof Stefanie Hellweg (until 30.9.2019), Prof Michael O. Hottiger, Prof Denis Jabaudon (from 1.1.2019), Prof Stuart Lane (from 1.1.2019), Prof Andreas Mayer, Prof Katharina Michaelowa, Prof Bert Müller (from 1.5.2019), Prof Dimos Poulidakos (from 1.1.2019), Prof Nicolas Rodondi, Prof Frank Scheffold (until 30.9.2019), Prof Dirk van der Marel.

Specialised Committee Careers → Prof Fritz Schlunegger (President); Prof Michael O. Hottiger (Vice President); Prof Peter Auer (from 1.10.2019), Prof Eva Bayer-Flückiger (until 31.12.2019), Prof Susanna Burghartz, Prof Petra Hüppi, Prof Beat Keller (from 1.5.2019), Prof Christian Matter, Prof Ioannis Papadopoulos, Prof Sabine Schneider (until 30.9.2019), Prof Jess Snedeker.

Specialised Committee International Cooperation → Prof Katharina Michaelowa (President); Prof Anna Fontcuberta i Morral (Vice President); Prof Anne Angelillo-Scherrer, Prof Véronique Dasen, Prof Paul Dyson, Prof Christoph Heinrich (until 31.12.2019), Prof Madeleine Herren-Oesch, Prof Bernard Thorens.

Specialised Committee Interdisciplinary Research → Prof Rita Franceschini (President); Prof Dirk van der Marel (Vice President); Prof David Andrew Barry, Prof Laura Bernardi (from 1.12.2019), Prof Melanie Blokesch (from 1.12.2019), Prof Chris Boesch, Prof Claudio Bolzman (until 31.10.2019), Prof Juliane Hollender, Prof Andreas Lüthi, Prof Andreas Mayer.

Commission on Gender Equality in Research Funding → Prof Susan M. Gasser (President until 31.12.2019); Prof Michelle Cottier, Prof Thomas Hinz, Dr Simona Isler, Prof Nicky Le Feuvre, Gary Loke, Prof Anna Wahl.

Commission on Research Integrity → Prof Nadja Capus (President); Prof Regina Aebi-Müller (Vice President); Prof David Andrew Barry, Dr Sönke Bauck (from 1.9.2019), Dr Marco Bieri, Dr Stéphanie Boder-Pasche (until 31.5.2019), Dr Tania Bühler, Dr Martin Christen (until 31.8.2019), Prof Bart Deplancke, Prof Anna Fontcuberta i Morral, Prof Juliane Hollender (from 1.1.2019), Dr Stephanie Hoppeler, Prof Michael O. Hottiger, Claudia Lautenschütz, Dr Vanja Michel (from 1.6.2019), Dr Claudia Rutte, Dr Barbara Schellenberg (from 1.12.2019), Prof Danièle Tosato-Rigo, Dr Martin von Arx (until 30.11.2019), Gilles Wasser.

Further information → www.snsf.ch/nrc

Research Commissions

Presidents of the Research Commissions at Swiss higher education Institutions → **Basel:** Prof Andreas Papassotiropoulos. **Bern:** Prof Gabriele Rippl (until 31.10.2019); Prof Marianne Johanna Lehmkuhl (from 1.11.2019). **Fribourg:** Prof Thierry Collaud. **Geneva:** Prof Pierre Barrouillet. **Lausanne:** Prof Martin Preisig. **Lucerne:** Prof Alexander Trechsel. **Neuchâtel:** Prof Corinne Rossari. **St. Gallen:** Prof Michael Lechner. **Ticino:** Prof Mauro Pezzè. **Zurich:** Prof Michael Schaepman. **EPF Lausanne:** Prof Kay Severin. **ETH Zurich:** Prof Uwe Sauer.

Administrative Offices

Executive Management → Director: Dr Angelika Kalt. Deputy Director: Dr François Baumgartner (until 31.10.2019). Vice Director: Rosemarie Pécaut. **Heads of Staff Services** → **Executive Staff/Legal Department:** Inge Blatter. **Communication:** Christophe Giovannini. **Institutional Relationships:** Dr Jean-Luc Barras (from 16.12.2019).

Heads of Strategy Services → **Strategy Support:** Dr Katrin Milzow. **Data and Systems (DSF):** Benjamin Rindlisbacher. This division ceased to exist on 30.6.2019. It was replaced as of 1.7.2019 by the **AARE Programme:** Dr Thomas Werder Schläpfer.

Heads of Research Funding divisions → **Division I, Humanities and Social Sciences:** Dr Pierre Willa. **Division II, Mathematics, Natural and Engineering Sciences:** Dr Thomas Werder Schläpfer. **Division III, Biology and Medicine:** Dr Ayşim Yılmaz (until 31.5.2019), Dr Irene Knüsel (from 1.11.2019). **Division IV, Programmes:** Dr Dimitri Sudan. **Careers division:** Dr Marcel Kullin. **Interdisciplinary and International Co-operation division (InterCo)/SwissCore:** Dr Jean-Luc Barras (until 15.12.2019), Dr Marc Zbinden (from 16.12.2019). **Gender Equality in Research Funding:** Dr Simona Isler.

Heads of Central Services → **Director:** Rosemarie Pécaut. **Human Resources:** Karim Errassas. **Finance:** Markus König. **IT Services:** Mario Andenmatten. **Facility Management:** Yves Flohimont.

Details of the Research Council and the Administrative Offices:
as of 31 December 2019
Information on Foundation Council: as of 31 January 2020