



## **LS<sup>2</sup> General Assembly 2022**

27 January 2022  
Online meeting  
13:00 - 14:00

The General Assembly was led by Didier Picard, president of LS2  
Adela Calvente, LS2 scientific officer, wrote the minutes

# 1. Welcome and agenda approval

## Welcome!



**Didier Picard**  
LS<sup>2</sup> President

A scientific officer will  
write the minutes

## Agenda

1. Welcome and agenda approval - **to vote**
2. Approval of minutes of 2021 General Assembly - **to vote**
3. Approval of address change and new Bylaws - **to vote**
4. Financial report 2021 - **to vote**
5. Financial prognosis 2022
6. Honorary membership 2022 - **to vote**
7. New LS2 section "Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters" - **to vote**
8. New LS2 Presidency and Vice-Presidency - **to vote**
  - Patrick Matthias (FMI - LS2 President)
  - Mario Tschan (UNIBE - LS2 Vice-President)
9. Elections of LS<sup>2</sup> board members - **to vote**
  - New (inter)section board members:
    - Maria Pavlou (EPFL - Section Proteomics)
    - Benjamin Towbin (UNIBE - Section Systems Biology)
    - Alma Dal Co (UNIL - Section Systems Biology)
    - Sahand Rahi (EPFL - Section Systems Biology)
    - Simon Blanchoud (UNIR - Section Systems Biology)
    - Christel Genoud (UNIL - Intersection Microscopy)
    - Yinan Wan (UNBAS - Intersection Microscopy)
    - Juliette Grifflé (EPFL - Intersection Microscopy)
    - Katja Baerenfaller (SIB - Intersection Bioinformatics)
    - Hugues Abriel (UNIBE - Section Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters)
    - Johannes Löffing (UZH - Section Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters)
    - Katja Odening (UNIBE - Section Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters)
    - Manuele Rebsamen (UNIL - Section Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters)
    - Cristina Manatschal (UZH - Section Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters)
    - Maud Frieden (UNIGE - Section Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters)
  - New function in boards:
    - Volands Scharif (UNIL - Section Systems Biology President, starts in 2022)
    - Benjamin Towbin (UNIBE - Section Systems Biology Vice-president, starts in 2022)
    - Katja Baerenfaller (SIB - Intersection Bioinformatics President, starts in 2022)
    - Carlos-Andrés Peña-Reyes (SIB - Intersection Bioinformatics Vice-President, starts in 2022)
    - Hugues Abriel (UNIBE - Section ICMT President, starts in 2022)
    - Johannes Löffing (UZH - Section ICMT Vice-President, starts in 2022)
10. LS<sup>2</sup> in numbers. Projects to come. Varia.

**please  
vote**

Vote: In favor: 24, Abstention:1, Against: 0  
Agenda accepted

## 2. Approval of minutes of 2021 General Assembly

### LS<sup>2</sup> General Assembly 2021

28<sup>th</sup> of January, 2021  
Online meeting  
13:00 - 14:00



please  
vote

Vote: In favor: 23, Abstention: 5, Against: 0  
Minutes accepted

### 3. Approval of address change and new Bylaws

#### Tax exemption status of LS<sup>2</sup>

- Bern has failed to provide it, despite a 4 years long procedure
- Basel-Stadt approved it within few months

**We propose to move the seat of LS<sup>2</sup> to Basel-Stadt**

#### Revision of LS<sup>2</sup> Bylaws accordingly

- no address in the footer on all pages
- **article 1.1** (p.1): "Life Sciences Switzerland, hereafter called LS<sup>2</sup>, is an association in the sense of article 60ff of the Swiss Civil Code, with its domicile in **Basel-Stadt**."
- **article 10.10** (p.5): "The Executive Committee can register the society in the commercial register of the canton of **Basel-Stadt**."

please  
vote

**Didier Picard:** We have been battling for years to obtain tax exemption in Bern, the preliminary decision was negative. A formal request to justify this decision was filed recently. A few months ago, our lawyer suggested to try to apply for the tax exempt status in Basel-Stadt, and the preliminary enquiry is positive. To start the formal process of obtaining the tax exemption, we need to change the seat of LS<sup>2</sup> to Basel-Stadt. In order to change the seat of LS<sup>2</sup> (it would now be formally "hosted" at the FMI where our next president Patrick Matthias works), we need to change the seat indicated in the LS<sup>2</sup> Bylaws. Note that contact and billing address of LS<sup>2</sup> will continue to be Zurich, at the office of our secretary Jacqueline Oberholzer.

Vote: In favor: 28, Abstention: 0, Against: 0  
Revisions of Bylaws accepted.

## 4. Financial report 2021

### Balance 2021

Income (CHF)		Expenses (CHF)		Profits from Meetings (CHF)	
	2021		2021		
<b>Membership fees</b>	100.699,66	<b>Expenses Section Meetings</b>			<b>53.078,65 CHF</b>
<b>Income Section Meetings</b>		Proteomics	6.145,68	<b>19.192,13</b>	(8'000 reserve for 2022)
Proteomics	25.337,81	(reserve for 2022)	8.000,00	<b>3.998,38</b>	(11'000 transferred to 2022)
(10'000 reserve from 2020)		Cardiovascular	264,11	<b>4.484,86</b>	
Cardiovascular	4.262,49	Physiology	308,00	<b>6.870,64</b>	
Physiology	4.792,86	Autophagy + Satellite	1.818,36	<b>10.236,03</b>	
Autophagy + Satellite	8.689,00	Systems Biology	9.467,16		
Systems Biology	19.703,19	<b>Expenses Other Meetings</b>		<b>4.026,61</b>	
<b>Income Other Meetings</b>		Workshop Patenting	21.061,29	<b>4.270,00</b>	
Workshop Patenting	25.087,90	Teaching Symposium	-	<b>Profit from AM (CHF)</b>	
Teaching Symposium	4.270,00	<b>Expenses AM 2021</b>	6.073,72	<b>45.440,28</b>	
<b>Income AM 2021</b>	51.514,00	(reserve for 2022)	15.000,00		
Income from Fonds/Bank	15.896,65	<b>Salaries</b>			
		Adela, Jessica, Jacqueline, Dominique	132.598,57		2015: - 36'750,00 CHF
		AHV	18.880,35		2016: - 21'754,00 CHF
		Graphic designer (Dagmar Bocakova)	6.000,00		2017: + 915,96 CHF
		Website (Michael Vogel)	2.030,15		2018: + 4'629,00 CHF
		(reserve for 2022)	5.000,00		2019: - 10'768,00 CHF
		<b>Lawyer fees</b> (2'000 reserve from 2020)	171,26		2020: + 26'654,03 CHF
		(reserve for 2022)	5.000,00		2021: + 76'904,00 CHF
		<b>Taxes</b>			
		Annual fees SCNAT, FEBS, FEPS, EBSA	8.185,10		
		Diverse Sponsoring	-		
		Administrative costs	1.355,79		
		Travel costs LS2 delegates / officers	2.404,92		
		Bank charges	940,79		
		Stripe charges (online payment)	843,75		
<b>Total netto</b>	<b>260.253,56</b>	<b>Total netto</b>	<b>253.149,00</b>		
<b>Total Reserve from 2021 to 2022: 69'800</b>		<b>Balance End 2021: 7.104,56</b>			

please  
vote

**Didier Picard:** one of the main sources of income of LS2 are the membership fees, the rest of the income results from sponsorship and registration fees of LS2 meetings. The biggest expenses are the employees salaries, and all the expenses relative to the organisation of meetings. As you can see, despite the pandemic and a couple of meetings which were online like the Annual Meeting, we were able to organise many meetings and keep our members, generating an extra income, most of which will be transferred to 2022.

Vote: In favor: 27, Abstention: 0, Against: 0  
Financial Report 2021 accepted.

## 5. Financial prognosis 2022

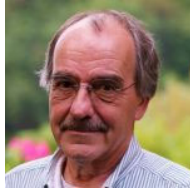
Prognosis 2022		Expenses (CHF)		Profits from Meetings
<b>Income (CHF)</b>		<b>Expenses (CHF)</b>		
Membership fees	100.000,00			
<b>Income Section Meetings</b>		<b>Expenses Section Meetings</b>		
Proteomics	25.000,00	Proteomics	15.000,00	10.000,00
Cardiovascular	22.000,00	Cardiovascular	19.000,00	3.000,00
Physiology	3.500,00	Physiology	500,00	3.000,00
Autophagy workshop	0,00	Autophagy workshop	-	-
Jeanetet Satellite	0,00	Jeanetet Satellite	-	-
<b>Income AM 2022</b>	<b>192.000,00</b>	<b>Expenses AM 2022</b>	<b>109.000,00</b>	<b>83.000,00</b>
Income from Fonds/Bank	2.000,00	<b>Salaries (incl. bonus)</b>		<b>99.000,00</b>
		Adela, Jessica, Jacqueline, Dominique	133.000,00	
		AHV	19.000,00	
		Graphic designer (Dagmar Bocakova)	6.000,00	
		Website (Michael Vögeli)	6.000,00	
		Taxes	1.000,00	
		Lawyer costs	3.000,00	
		Fiduciary	1.500,00	
		Annual fees SCNAT FEBS, FEPS, EBSA	8.200,00	
		Diverse Sponsoring	1.000,00	
		administrative costs	2.000,00	
		travel costs LS2 delegates and officers	1.000,00	
		bank charges	1.000,00	
		Stripe charges (online payment)	1.000,00	
<b>Total netto</b>	<b>344.500,00</b>	<b>Total netto</b>	<b>327.200,00</b>	
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>+17.300,00</b>	
		Reserve from 2021	+69.800,00	
		<b>FINAL</b>	<b>+87.100,00</b>	

**Didier Picard:** The prognosis for 2022 is based on the assumption that we will keep our members and that we will be able to hold our meetings. The income and expenses of upcoming meetings are hard to predict, so this is a minima calculation based on previous years.

**Katherina Strub** asked how the income of the LS2 AM2022 is estimated.

**Jessica Plucain:** the income for AM2022 is based on an estimation of registration fees (for a moderate participant number, so it can be more at the end), the funding from SCNAT or SNF we already know we have, and mainly the sponsoring (which to this day =120'000,00 CHF). The expenses are based mainly on hotel and travel costs for chairs and speakers, and the catering (the invoice for catering would of course be proportional to the number of participants)

## 6. Honorary membership 2022



**Marcus Thelen**  
IRB, USI, Bellinzona

Marcus Thelen has been nominated by the LS<sup>2</sup> section MCB for a LS<sup>2</sup> Honorary membership and selected by an internal committee of different board section members and junior LS<sup>2</sup> members for his contributions to LS<sup>2</sup> and his outstanding scientific career and achievements.

Marcus Thelen has served the board of the SSB (Swiss Society for Biochemistry), SSMCB (Swiss Society for Molecular and Cellular Biosciences) and the MCB section of LS<sup>2</sup>, notably also as president for many years.

Marcus Thelen was one of the initiator and driver for the merger of SSB & ZMG (Swiss Society for Cell Biology, Molecular Biology and Genetics) to SSMCB, and then the merger with the umbrella organization USGEB (Union Schweizerischer Gesellschaften für experimentelle Biologie) to establish the current LS<sup>2</sup>.

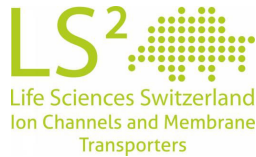
Marcus Thelen is an outstanding, world leading scientist and pioneer in the area of chemokines and atypical chemokine receptors. Marcus Thelen is well appreciated by many students and principal investigators as mentor.

**please  
vote**

**Didier Picard:** we are very happy to present Marcus Thelen for the first LS<sup>2</sup> Honorary Membership. Marcus was a pillar in the construction of LS<sup>2</sup> and is a brilliant scientist too.

Vote: In favor: 27, Abstention: 1, Against: 0  
Honorary Membership 2022 accepted.

## 7. New section Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters



The new LS<sup>2</sup> section “**Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters**” will be officially launched the 16th February 2022 and start its activities afterwards

The LS<sup>2</sup> section “**Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters**” is a spin-off of two National Centers of Competence in Research (NCCR):

- NCCR Transcure: [www.nccr-transcure.ch/](http://www.nccr-transcure.ch/)
- NCCR Kidney.ch: [www.nccr-kidney.ch/](http://www.nccr-kidney.ch/)

Board members to be voted later

please  
vote

**Didier Picard:** this new section is a way for the 2 NCCR communities to stay together when the NCCRs will finish their terms in 2022.

**Thierry Soldati** asked how many new members we can expect, as the LS2 regulations stipulates that a section needs at least 50 members.

**Manuelle Rebsamen** (section board member) answered they should reach the 50 members easily, as they ran a survey amongst the NCCRs members last year and the numbers were good.

**Jessica Plucain** added what the communication strategy will involve: LS2 will inform all members that they can join this new section (or any section, no restriction on the number), and both NCCR will communicate to their members who are not already LS2 members of the creation of this section.

**Didier Picard** added that collective membership is available for any research group who would like to join. This should also facilitate the transition.

Vote: In favor: 26, Abstention: 1, Against: 0

New LS<sup>2</sup> section “Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters” accepted.



## 8. New LS2 Presidency and Vice-Presidency



**Patrick Matthias**  
FMI, Basel  
LS<sup>2</sup> President  
starts April 2022



**Mario Tschan**  
UNIBE  
LS<sup>2</sup> Vice-President  
starts April 2022



**Didier Picard**  
UNIGE  
LS<sup>2</sup> Past-President  
starts April 2022



**Urs Greber**  
UZH  
(Vice-President 2016-2017)  
(President 2018-2019)  
(Past-President 2020-2021)

please  
vote

Thank you for your  
service Urs!












The changes in Presidency will be effective after the LS2 Annual Meeting 2022 - 21/22 April 2022

**Didier Picard:** Mario Tschan was one of the founders of the Autophagy section and he sent his application for the Vice-Presidency in response to our general call to section board members. Patrick Matthias was Vice-President the past 2 years and is proposed to be the next President. I have myself (Didier) served as president for the past 2 years and will become Past President. And Urs Greber has served in the Presidency as Vice-President, President, and Past President the past 6 years. Urs has always been a really enthusiastic supporter of LS2 and we thank him deeply for his work. We are also fully aware that the presidency is fully male, and we always have this in mind when new members need to be recruited. We do hope for the next term to be able to recruit a female Vice-President. The vote is on the new-president and new vice-president only. The changes in Presidency will be effective after the LS2 Annual Meeting 2022 in April due to the postponement of the meeting.

Vote: In favor: 25, Abstention: 2, Against: 0  
New LS<sup>2</sup> presidency accepted.

## 9. Elections of LS<sup>2</sup> board members

### New (inter)section board members:

 Life Sciences Switzerland Proteomics	 Life Sciences Switzerland Systems Biology	 Life Sciences Switzerland Systems Biology	 Life Sciences Switzerland Systems Biology	 Life Sciences Switzerland Systems Biology	 Life Sciences Switzerland Microscopy	 Life Sciences Switzerland Microscopy	 Life Sciences Switzerland Microscopy
							
<b>Maria Pavlou</b> EPFL	<b>Benjamin Towbin</b> UNIBE	<b>Alma Dal Co</b> UNIL	<b>Sahand Rahi</b> EPFL	<b>Simon Blanchoud</b> UNIFR	<b>Christel Genoud</b> UNIL	<b>Juliette Griffie</b> EPFL	<b>Yinan Wan</b> UNBAS
 Life Sciences Switzerland Bioinformatics	 Life Sciences Switzerland Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters	 Life Sciences Switzerland Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters	 Life Sciences Switzerland Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters	 Life Sciences Switzerland Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters	 Life Sciences Switzerland Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters	 Life Sciences Switzerland Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters	 Life Sciences Switzerland Ion Channels and Membrane Transporters
							
<b>Katja Baerenfaller</b> SIB	<b>Hugues Abriel</b> UNIBE	<b>Johannes Loffing</b> UZH	<b>Katja Odening</b> UNIBE	<b>Manuele Rebsamen</b> UNIL	<b>Cristina Manatschal</b> UZH	<b>Maud Frieden</b> UNIGE	<b>please vote</b>

**Didier Picard:** we need to approve the new section board members now.

**Laure Plantard** asked, what is the role of board members?

**Didier Picard** answered that their role is to take decisions regarding the section activities, the communication with the section members through the Office, and to represent their section in LS2 general decisions during the LS2 executive committee and delegates assembly. The autonomy of each section is limited, but flexible.

Vote: In favor:25, Abstention:1, Against: 0

New (inter)section board members accepted.

## 9. Elections of LS<sup>2</sup> board members

### New function in boards:



President  
starts Feb. 2022



**Yolanda  
Schaerli**  
UNIL



Vice-President  
starts Feb. 2022



**Benjamin  
Towbin**  
UNIBE



President  
starts Feb. 2022



**Katja  
Baerenfaller**  
SIB



Vice-President  
starts Feb. 2022



**Carlos-Andrés  
Peña-Reyes**  
SIB



President  
starts Feb. 2022



**Hugues  
Abriel**  
UNIBE



Vice-President  
starts Feb. 2022



**Johannes  
Loffing**  
UZH

**please  
vote**

**Didier Picard:** because of the turnover within each section board, after a couple of years of service, some board members finish their term. We thank them for their presence and their work.

Vote: In favor: 25 Abstention: 0, Against: 0  
New functions in board accepted.

## 9. Elections of LS<sup>2</sup> board members

Board members finishing their terms:

LS<sup>2</sup>  
Life Sciences Switzerland  
Proteomics



**Marc Moniatte**  
HES-SO  
Valais-Wallis

LS<sup>2</sup>  
Life Sciences Switzerland  
Systems Biology



**Vassily  
Hatzimanikatis**  
EPFL

LS<sup>2</sup>  
Life Sciences Switzerland  
Systems Biology



**Uwe Sauer**  
ETHZ

LS<sup>2</sup>  
Life Sciences Switzerland  
Bioinformatics

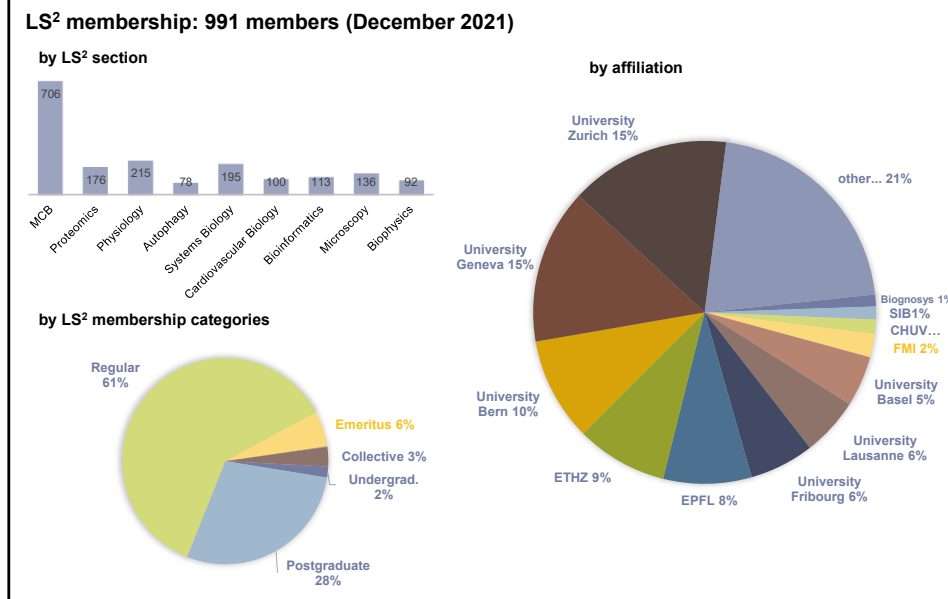


**Christian von  
Mering**  
SIB

Thank you for your work!

**Didier Picard:** because of the turnover within each section board, after a couple of years of service, some board members finish their term. We thank them for their presence and their work.

## 10. LS<sup>2</sup> in numbers. Upcoming projects. Varia.



**Didier Picard:** here are a few numbers regarding the LS2 membership. The number in each section is on the top left. Then there is the pie chart with members classified by categories (regular members represent almost 2/3, they all have finished their studies and typically have more stable positions). Classified by affiliation: we have a good representation in each city and at each major university, with the exception maybe of Basel despite many attempts to improve that.

## 10. LS<sup>2</sup> in numbers. Upcoming projects. Varia.

### LS2 Report 2021

- 9 LS<sup>2</sup> scientific conferences organised by LS<sup>2</sup> (inter)sections
- 4 LS<sup>2</sup> webinar series (for a total of 27 webinars) + 1 SCNAT webinar serie
- 7 events to promote young scientists organised or sponsored by LS<sup>2</sup>
- 2 LS<sup>2</sup> national prizes + 1 SCNAT prize distributed to 4 awardees
- 34 prizes for young scientists distributed or sponsored by LS<sup>2</sup>
- 5 travel grants for PhD students
- 5 presences at international meeting for LS<sup>2</sup>
- 2 new collaborations with swiss biotech associations: SBA Swiss Biotech Association and SKB/SCCB Swiss Coordination Committee for Biotechnology
- 2 new categories of LS<sup>2</sup> membership
- 1 scientific publication for LS<sup>2</sup>

Visit [www.ls2.ch/about-us/ls2-annual-reports](http://www.ls2.ch/about-us/ls2-annual-reports) for more info



**Didier Picard:** here are few numbers regarding the activities of LS2 in 2021. More details can be found in the Annual Report which was distributed earlier this month and is available on the LS2 website. As you can see LS2 has been quite hyperactive despite the pandemic, we organised many conferences and webinars, and distributed many prizes, especially to young scientists. Only the LS2 Travel Grants were not that popular this year again, due to the pandemic.

## 10. LS<sup>2</sup> in numbers. Upcoming projects. Varia.

**LS2 Annual Meeting 2022**  
chair Lydie Lane, SIB  
postpone to 20-21-22 April 2022  
Campus Irchel, Zurich



**LS2 Annual Meeting 2023**  
chair Thomas Lutz, UZH  
15-16-17 February 2023  
Campus Irchel, Zurich or Biozentrum, Basel

**"Life: coping with challenges"**

**Didier Picard:** AM2022 is officially postponed to April to allow better interactions with lower risk. The meeting was first planned to be in Geneva, but we had to move it due to a time collision with the Geneva Motorshow, which was scheduled at a new date coinciding with our AM. It was also planned in Geneva in 2021 before we had to switch it online. We are really trying to organise this meeting in various places, but Geneva is out of the picture at the moment due to this Motorshow and its unpredictable dates. For the AM2023 we have looked at the Biozentrum Basel, but there are still too many uncertainties regarding space. We have specific needs for this meeting, like the capability to host 500 participants, 35 sponsor booths, 100 posters, catering, etc. This is really difficult to find, but we are exploring possibilities. At the moment it looks complicated in Basel, so we will go to Zurich again in 2023 due to the difficulty to find a new location on such a short notice. We will go on exploring places, including negotiating with Basel, perhaps Lausanne, and even Geneva (if the meeting can be held again in April) for 2024.

## 10. LS<sup>2</sup> in numbers. Upcoming projects. Varia.

### Upcoming activities 2022



**LS<sup>2</sup> Prestige Webinars**  
<https://www.ls2.ch/events/ls2-prestige-webinars>  
Life Sciences Switzerland



**A PROTEOMICS TOUR OF SWITZERLAND**  
a Webinar Series  
by the LS<sup>2</sup> Proteomics section  
Basel  
Lausanne  
Zurich  
Geneva  
Bern  
Tribourg



**Innovation in Undergraduate Teaching of Life Sciences Webinar series**  
LS<sup>2</sup> Life Sciences Switzerland



**Microscopy Webinars Series**  
by the LS<sup>2</sup> Microscopy intersection



**LS<sup>2</sup> Events 2022**  
Life Sciences Switzerland

- 31<sup>st</sup> Cytomeet  
25 January - Bern
- Rigi Workshop: Cell Biology of Infection  
30 Jan - 1 Feb - Rigi Kulm
- Biophysics of the Brain  
27 Feb. - 4 March - Ascona
- LS<sup>2</sup> Annual Meeting 2022  
20 - 22 April - Zurich
- Swiss Drosophila Meeting 2022  
10 June - Bern
- Cardiovascular Biology Meeting  
4 - 5 July - Bern
- 9<sup>th</sup> Cell Migration Retreat  
August - Location tbd
- Swiss Physiology Meeting  
6 September - Bern
- Autophagy workshop  
16 September - Lausanne
- Swiss Microscopy Core Facility Retreat  
15 - 16 September - Engelberg
- Satellite Louis Jeantet Symposium  
October - Geneva
- Intellectual Property (Lead by SCS)  
7 - 8 November - Gerzensee 10 June - Bern
- Swiss Proteomics Meeting  
to be defined

[www.ls2.ch](http://www.ls2.ch) - [info@ls2.ch](mailto:info@ls2.ch)

**Didier Picard:** Many meetings and webinars planned this year (2022) again. We hope to be able to host all of them.





**Thierry Soldati:** thank you to everyone who have carried LS2 on they shoulders for so long. I am very pleased to see so many faces sticking around for so many years. I also would like to note that this year is the 10 year anniversary of LS2! Gisou van der Goot was the last USGEB president and first LS2 president. The bet of creating LS2 is a big success. I would also like to note something: women women women, we need to advance on parity!

**Didier Picard:** on the topic of parity, SCNAT did run a poll towards all its society members. The result of this poll was the catalyst to create a task force and a webinar series called “Achieving Gender Equality & Diversity in the Natural Sciences”

<https://scnat.ch/en/uuid/i/d87a53d7-bac7-522f-957c-12f0d9ebc843->

[Achieving\\_Gender\\_Equality\\_and\\_Diversity\\_in\\_the\\_Natural\\_Sciences](#) (also:

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=scnat+gender](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=scnat+gender))