

# Minutes of the 2021 SIRA Annual Conference

**November 19, 2021 14:15 - 15:30**

(Hybrid format: Online on Zoom, as well as Room Nr 115, Hauptgebäude Universität Bern)

## 1. Welcome and setup

The envisaged talk by a representative of the SNSF or SBF/SEFRI did not materialize, see agenda item 2.

### Attendees:

**Local:** Christian Tschudin (UniBas, president), Peter Kropf (UniNE)

**Remote:** Hansjörg Diethelm (HSLU), Giovanna Di Marzo Serugendo (UniGE), Eric Dubuis (BFH; will be replaced by Michael Röthlin), Paulo Favaro (UniBE), Martin Glinz (UZH, substitute for Renato Pajarola), Matthias Grossglauser (EPFL), Siegfried Handschuh (UniSG), Matthias Hauswirth (USI), Olaf Stern (ZHAW), Christine Legner (UniL), EdyPortmann (UniFR, substitute for Philippe Cudré-Mauroux), Sandro Pedrazzini (Supsi),

Minute keepers: Peter Kropf, Christian Tschudin      **vote:** approved

## 2. Invited talk

Both SNSF and SBF/SEFRI preferred to not present the state of research funding with the EU, see also item 3e.

## 3. Formal SIRA association matters

Approval of 2020 SIRA Conference Minutes.      **Vote:** approved

Approval of modified agenda for this meeting (move discussion of non-participation of SNSF and SBF to agenda item 3e).      **Vote:** yes with 1 abstention

### 3a. Report on activities, communication

The president reports: general comment: activities more formal and board-internal information exchange than outreach:

- five meetings of the SIRA board in 2021
- SIRA board delegates:
  - UAS - Hansjörg Diethelm, HSLU
  - SNF - Joachim Buhmann ETHZ (previously Oscar Nierstrasz, UniBE)
- Liasons:
  - SI - Martin Glinz and Christian Tschudin
  - ParIDigi - so far Martin Glinz, Christian Tschudin to become involved

- Financial topics:
  - SIRA to file tax reports, starting 2021,
  - move SIRA account out of SI due to negative premiums: separate PostFinance account (pending), open question to move some money into funds to avoid negative premiums even further (see agenda item 3c)
- Content topics:
  - happy to see SI leave infights behind it,
  - request for support/help from <https://fsie.ch> (Federation of Swiss IT Experts). Although empathic, SIRA members may not be the right target

#### *Contacts/Liaisons:*

- Informatics Europe : Martin Glinz
- SNFS : Joachim Buhman (ETHZ)
- Swiss IT experts, short discussion: no

*Student statistics:* Presented by M. Glinz, data provided by BFS/OSF  
 URL? Still not fully accurate/complete (Wirtschaftsinformatik. Mikrotechnik)

#### *Additional communications:*

*Informatics Europe:* M. Glinz participated remotely (Oct 2021 in Madrid) which content wise was rather disappointing. SIRA is member of IE, but no fee because 2/3 of SIRA members are Informatics Europe members.

MSc Informatics study program at HSG started with 25 students (M. Handschuh)

## **3b. Fees for 2022**

The SIRA board suggests to keep the fees unchanged:

CHF 120.- per regular member  
 CHF 0.- per emeritus

Breakdown of the CHF 120: 36.- to SIRA, 50.- to SI, 14.- to joint SI-SIRA R&E fund, 20.- flat fee for SIG memberships

**Approved** as proposed (no change).

### 3c. Approvals

#### Report closing of 2020:

##### SIRA (Verein nach Art 60) Erfolgsrechnung Rechnungsjahr 2020 (01.01.2020 - 31.12.2020)

Aufwand	Aktuell	Vorjahr	Ertrag	Aktuell	Vorjahr
<b>Aufwand Fachgruppen</b>			<b>Mitgliederbeiträge Fachgruppen</b>		
3069 Aufwand SIRA	8,130.09	7,283.67	5169 Mitgliederbeiträge SIRA	11,774.00	11,074.00
<b>Bilanzgewinn</b>			<b>Ertrag Fachgruppen</b>		
9000 Jahresergebnis/Gewinn	3,643.91	3,790.33	5469 Ertrag SIRA	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,774.00</b>	<b>11,074.00</b>	<b>Total Ertrag</b>	<b>11,774.00</b>	<b>11,074.00</b>

##### SIRA (Verein nach Art 60) Bilanz Rechnungsjahr 2020 (31.12.2020)

Aktiv	Aktuell	Vorjahr	Passiv	Aktuell	Vorjahr
<b>Flüssige Mittel</b>			<b>Verbindlichkeiten</b>		
101x Postkonto (4 Kontos), Anteil	209,333.02	218,509.11	2000 Kreditoren SIRA	0.00	0.00
<b>Forderungen</b>			<b>Kapital Fachgruppen</b>		
1202 Debitoren SIRA	17,500.00	4,680.00	2169 Kapital SIRA	226,833.02	223,189.11
<b>Total Aktive</b>	<b>226,833.02</b>	<b>223,189.11</b>	<b>9000 Jahresergebnis/Gewinn</b>		<b>3,643.91</b>
				<b>226,833.02</b>	<b>226,833.02</b>

**Vote:** approved

#### Discharge of board:

**Vote:** approved

(note: Members of the board did not vote, the vote was chaired by P. Kropf)

#### Forecast for 2021:

surplus expected to be 4000+, including taxes of CHF 500. No vote.

#### Budget 2022:

SIRA Budget 2022	2022 Budget [CHF]	2021 estimate [CHF]	2020 actual [CHF]
<b>Income</b>			
Membership fees (SIRA share)	11'000.00		
<b>Total income</b>	<b>11'000.00</b>	<b>11'000.00</b>	<b>11'774.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>[CHF]</b>		<b>[CHF]</b>
Sponsoring ParIDigi	6'000.00		
SIRA Event 2022 (SI Swiss IT Summit)	2'000.00		
Other measures/events at discretion of the board	3'500.00		
Miscellaneous (at discretion of the board)	500.00		
Taxes & Negative Interest	1'500.00		
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>13'500.00</b>	<b>6'500.00</b>	<b>8'130.09</b>
<b>deficit (-) / surplus (+)</b>	<b>-2'500.00</b>	<b>4'500.00</b>	<b>3'643.91</b>

Contribution of SIRA of 2000.- to the Swiss IT summit "Education", March 2022, UniFR, organized by E. Portmann and M. Glinz.

**Vote:** Approved.

#### Negative Interest:

Should SIRA move part of its Postfinance account to a Postfinance funds?

One opinion: rather no, too complicated, and little benefits.

**Vote** on moving Half of assets to funds: **yes 8**, no 2, abstention 3. ➔ Approved.

### 3d. Date for 2022 conference

The tentative dates to be considered by the board are **Nov 11 or 18, 2022 14:15-16:15**.

### 3e. Varia

GDMS points out the Swiss government position to consider cloud services operated by foreign nations (US, China). Should a position statement be written?

**Vote** 8 yes, 3 abstentions

CT points out that the SNSF explicitly condemns "Switzerland first" positions but so far has avoided denouncing "EU first". Both the SNSF and the SERI/SBFI/SEFRI did not want to attend the SIRA conference for presenting and discussing the rift with the EU regarding participation in the Horizon Europe program.

*"Für eine allgemeine Übersicht zum Thema Horizon Europe ist das SBF oder allenfalls Euresearch der geeignetere Ansprechpartner."*

*"Wir schlagen vor [da keine Informationen zu Digital Europe vorliegen], dass Sie sich für die Jahresversammlung nächstes Jahr wieder bei uns melden, um zu diesem Zeitpunkt eine mögliche SBFI-Teilnahme zu organisieren".*

Should the board write a statement to SNFS/SBF?

Several contributions supporting also this and point out the more general discussion of politization of science where research should bow to political agenda which change depending on geopolitical interests (e.g. boycott of Iran).

**Vote:** approved

The SIRA Conference 2021 ends at 15:15