

Minutes of the 2022 SIRA Annual Conference

November 25, 2022, 12:15 – 14:00

Online in Zoom

1. Welcome and set-up

Attendees:

Giovanna Di Marzo Serugendo – UniGE (until about 13:20)

Hansjörg Diethelm – HSLU (joined at 13:00)

Paolo Favaro – UniBE

Martin Glinz – UZH (substitute for Burkhard Stiller), Board Member)

Siegfried Handschuh – UniSG, SIRA Treasurer

Matthias Hauswirth – USI, Board Member

Peter Kropf – UniNE

Sandro Pedrazzini – SUPSI

Edy Portmann – UniFr (substitute for Philippe Cudré-Mauroux)

Christoph Stamm – FHNW

Christian Tschudin – UniBas, SIRA President

Minute keeper: Martin Glinz – approved

Agenda: Giovanna Di Marzo Serugendo proposes to add a topic about the relationship of SI and SIRA.

Decision (unanimous): The agenda is amended by item 4^{bis} SI-SIRA relationship

Approval of the minutes of the 2021 SIRA Conference: Forgotten under this agenda item and discussed later (see below).

2. Report on activities, communications

The president reports.

On March 10, the Swiss IT Congress SITC 2022 on “IT Education in Switzerland” was held at UniFR. SITC 2022 was organized and sponsored jointly by SI and SIRA. Martin Glinz chaired the organizing committee. Despite an excellent line-up of speakers, attendance was fairly low: we had 35 registrations for onsite participation and 16 for remote participation, including the speakers.

SIRA is a member of the ParIDigi association. The president and Martin Glinz attended the 2022 general assembly of ParIDigi. SIRA currently is a passive member, but could do more if SIRA members were interested.

SIRA is also a member of Informatics Europe (IE), the association of Informatics departments at European universities. IE membership is free for SIRA, due to the fact that the Informatics departments of many Swiss universities are (paying) members. Through the membership of SIRA, IE activities are also accessible for departments who are no members themselves. Martin Glinz

attended IE's annual conference ECSS and the IE general assembly, which were held in Hamburg, Germany, this year.

The SIRA Board only met once last year.

There were no other activities due to lack of initiative of the president. Pending/dormant, for example, is the liaison with ParIDigi.

There were no questions from the attendees.

3. SIRA fees 2023

The SIRA board proposes to keep the SIRA membership fees for 2023 as they currently are:

CHF 120.- per regular member (36.- to SIRA, 50.- to SI, 14.- to joint SI-SIRA R&E fund, 20.- flat fee for SIG memberships).

CHF 0.- per emeritus.

Giovanna Di Marzo Serugendo asks about the flat fee for SIG memberships. Martin Glinz explains that all SIRA members are also SI members. They can join any of the SI SIGs without being charged SIG membership fees individually. These are paid by the flat fee.

Decision (unanimous): The SIRA membership fees for 2023 are approved as proposed.

4. Approvals

4.1 Financial reports

The treasurer informs that the expected closing for 2022 will be better than budgeted. He expects a profit of 3.7 kCHF before taxes and at least 2.2 kCHF after taxes, while we had budgeted for a deficit of 2.5 kCHF. The reasons are higher membership fees than budgeted and less expenses due to less activities than expected.

The financial report for 2021 was not received in due time. The core figures (taken from the audited closing of SI) are:

- SIRA Assets by 2020-12-31: CHF 226'833.02
- SIRA Assets by 2021-12-31: CHF 233'723.02, i.e. an actual profit of CHF 6'890.00 in 2021.

Decision (unanimous): The financial closing for 2021 with the core figures stated above is approved. The detailed financial report shall be added to the minutes.

The full financial report 2021 is presented in Figure 1 below.

4.2 Discharge of the board

Decision (5 yes, 0 no, 5 abstentions): The SIRA Board is discharged (board members have to abstain).

[Hansjörg Diethelm joins the meeting]

4.3 Budget 2023

The Treasurer presents the budget for 2023 (see Figure 2 below).

Decision (10 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention): The budget is approved.

	Budget 2021	Actual 2021
Income		
Gross SIRA membership fees	38'000	42'000.00
SI Membership fees	-23'000	-25'120.00
SI SIG & SISR Membership fees	-4'000	-3'990.00
Net membership income	11'000	12'890.00
Expenses		
ParlDigi Membership	6'000	6'000.00
SIRA Events	1'000	0.00
Other Measures (at discretion of the board)	3'500	0.00
Miscellaneous (at discretion of the board)	500	0.00
Total expenses	11'000	6'000.00
Balance	0	6'890.00
Assets per 31.12.2020		226'833.02
Assets per 31.12.2021		233'723.02

Figure 1. Financial closing 2021 of SIRA (not shown at the conference, added to minutes)

SIRA 2023

Income	Budget [CHF]
Membership fees (SIRA share)	12'500.00
Total income	12'500.00
Expenses	Budget [CHF]
Sponsoring ParlDigi	6'000.00
SIRA Event 2023	2'000.00
other measures/events at discretion of the board	1'000.00
Miscellaneous (at discretion of the board)	500.00
Taxes, negative interest	1'500.00
Total expenses	11'000.00
deficit (-) / surplus (+)	1'500.00

Figure 2. Budget 2023 of SIRA

4^{bis}. Relationship of SI and SIRA

Giovanna Di Marzo Serugendo suggests to discuss two topics:

- A joint letter by SI and SIRA to Federal Councilor Guy Parmelin concerning the Swiss Government Cloud
- The status of SIRA within SI

Ad a): Giovanna presents the draft of a letter in French, which was written by her and SI President Francis Baud. The question is whether SIRA should endorse / co-sign this letter, whether the SIRA president or the SIRA department representatives should sign, and whether any changes to the draft should be made.

After a short discussion, Peter Kropf moves to entitle the SIRA Board to decide how to proceed with this letter.

Decision (unanimous): The motion is approved.

Ad b): Martin Glinz (who represents SIRA in the SI Board and was SIRA President from 2017-2020) explains that SIRA legally is an association of its own, but has an agreement with SI stating that

- SI has the status of an SI SIG;
- SI elects a member to the SI Board who has been nominated by SIRA as the SIRA representative in SI;
- SI manages the assets of SIRA and collects the membership fees from the SIRA member departments;
- All SIRA assets belong to SIRA.

[Giovanna Di Marzo Serugendo leaves the meeting at ~13:20]

5. Elections

The terms of the president and of all SIRA board members are ending. Both the president and the board need to be elected / re-elected.

The term is two years (from today to the date of the 2024 SIRA Conference)

Nominations for the SIRA Board

The president presents the nominations of the current SIRA Board members:

Martin Glinz: available for re-election if needed

Matthias Grossglauser: contacted, no reply so far

Siegfried Handschuh: available for re-election

Matthias Hauswirth: available for re-election

Christine Legner: available for re-election if needed

Christian Tschudin: available for re-election as a board member

Further nominations for the SIRA Board

Hansjörg Diethelm: declines

Sandro Pedrazzini: declines

Christoph Stamm: declines for this term, might be available for the subsequent term

Edy Portmann: declines for this term, but will be available for the subsequent term, and, if elected, would then become the successor of Martin Glinz as the representative of SIRA on the SI Board.

Paolo Favaro: declines.

[Edy Portmann leaves the meeting at 13:50]

Nominations for SIRA President

Currently, there are no nominations. The current president could be re-elected for one term. However, Christian Tschudin feels that he does not deserve re-election due to his inactivity in the past year.

Peter Kropf nominates Christian Tschudin for re-election. Christian agrees to be a candidate.

Matthias Hauswirth asks himself why it is so hard to find candidates.

Peter Kropf takes over the chair of the conference for the election process.

Decision (unanimous): The conference decides to elect all nominees for the board who haven't declined in globo (excluding Christian Tschudin who has been nominated for president and would then become a board member by office).

Election results

a. SIRA Board: The nominees Martin Glinz, Matthias Grossglauser, Siegfried, Handschuh, Matthias Hauswirth and Christine Legner are re-elected unanimously in globo for a two-year term.

Martin Glinz, Siegfried, Handschuh and Matthias Hauswirth accept their election. The president will contact Christine Legner and Matthias Grossglauser and ask them whether they also accept.

b. SIRA President: Christian Tschudin is re-elected for a two-year term (8 in favor, 1 abstention).

Christian Tschudin accepts his election and takes over the chair of the conference again.

Coming back to agenda item 1:

Minutes of the 2021 SIRA Annual Conference

The president presents the current draft of the minutes. Unfortunately, there is no complete information about the attendees. Also, the budget for 2022 is missing from the current draft.

From conference notes taken by Martin Glinz and a Zoom meeting screenshot taken by Hansjörg Diethelm, the attendance can be re-constructed.

Decision (9 yes, 1 abstention): The minutes of the 2021 SIRA Annual Conference are *conditionally* approved. The president shall distribute a new version with the completed list of attendees and the budget for 2022 added.

6. Miscellaneous

Next Year's SIRA Conference

Date: Nov 10 or Nov 17, 2023 12-14

Form: In presence if there is a solid side program, else remotely in Zoom

Next Board meeting: shall be convened soon

The meeting is closed at 14:10.