

FfL General Assembly 24th of June 2025, 5 pm to 6 pm Room KOL-G-217, University of Zurich

Participants:

Michael Hottiger, Gerhard Christofori, Ueli Grossniklaus, Manfred Kopf, Christian Hardke, Aimee Zuniga, Christoph Schneider, Marie Barberon, Christian Münz, Felix Ehrensperger, Beat Keller, Bettina Balmer, Lorenz Schmid
Brigitte von Rechenberg, Alexander von Graevenitz, Maries van den Broek, Esther Stoeckli

Management office: Iana Buch (Moderation and Protocol)

Excused: Markus Affolter, Thomas Lutz, Wilhelm Gruissem, Valerio Mante, Jürg Girsberger, Bernhard Lämmle

1. Welcome

Iana Buch welcomes the participants to the 2025 General Assembly. She informs the Board that Markus Affolter has stepped down due to family reasons, and as FfL currently does not have a vice-president, Iana will have to lead the General Assembly. Today the new president and vice-presidents will be confirmed.

As usual, the FfL Board held a meeting prior to this General Assembly.

The invitation with the agenda was sent out on time.

Decision: The agenda is approved.

2. Protocol of the General assembly of 15th of May 2024

The protocol was posted online. There were no comments or objections.

Decision: The protocol is approved.

3. Information

➤ New Ffl president

Already at the last GA the members were informed that Markus Affolter will take over ad-interim until autumn 2025, when he will give the presidency over to Christian Münz. CM presents himself with a couple of words. The members welcome him as new president.

➤ New vice presidents: At the last FfL-Committee meeting, IB suggested to choose two vice presidents, one from the animal (Christoph Schneider), and one from the plant side (Marie Barberon). The committee accepted the proposal. At the board meeting Christoph Schneider and Marie Barberon were elected unanimously.

Decision: All members agree.

- IB informs the GA, that Thomas Lutz will be the new treasurer of FfL with next financial year (from 01.01.26), as Lorenz Schmid has resigned from the board.

Decision: All members agree.

4. Approval of the 2024 Annual Report

The annual report was published online and is available in German and English.

Iana Buch briefly summarizes the activities of FfL in 2024.

Highlights: National Information Day of the Experimental Animal (#NIDEA), Flyer “Animal Experiments causing Severe Suffering”, new FfL-flyer and Roll-up

Decision: The annual report is unanimously approved.

5. Acknowledgement of the 2024 financial statements

The General Assembly is responsible for taking note of the financial statements. The FfL Board has already unanimously approved the annual financial statements and discharged the Management office of duty.

The financial situation of FfL is stable. However, we are still almost entirely dependent on one single sponsor (who cut our funding in half some years ago). We still need new sources of funding.

Iana Buch reads and explains the annual financial statement:

Balance sheet as of (Bilanz) 31. December 2024

Assets (Aktiven): CHF 154'875, of which bank account balance (Bankguthaben): CHF 143'289

Liabilities (Passiven): CHF 154'875, of which Liabilities (Fremdkapital, Provison): CHF 99'552, and Equity (Eigenkapital): CHF 55'323

Income statement (Erfolgsrechnung) 1. January – 31. December 2024

Revenue (Einnahmen): CHF 126'317

Expenses (Ausgaben): CHF 126'335

Profit/ Loss (Gewinn/ Verlust): CHF -18

Statement of changes in equity (Entwicklung des Eigenkapitals):

Equity as of (Eigenkapital) 31.12.2024: CHF 55'323

Equity as of (Eigenkapital) 31.12.2023: CHF 55'340

Decision: The financial statements are approved unanimously.

Iana Buch reads the audit report.

Decision: The financial statements are acknowledged.

6. Proposal of the FfL Board: size of the 2025 membership fees.

The membership fee is CHF 50 per year for individual members, students are free. Institutional members, e.g. companies, institutes, etc. pay CHF 500 per year. The Board proposes that the fees should stay unchanged.

Decision: The proposal of the Board is approved unanimously.

Maries van den Broek suggests advertising more intensively in the life sciences institutes of the different universities; some of them will agree to become institutional members.

7. Proposal of the FfL Board: honorary membership of Felix Ehrensperger and Lorenz Schmid

Both have served on the board for long time, Felix as organizer of BioFokus, and Lorenz as questor and connection to the Kantonsrat. They will officially resign at this GA. To honour their commitment the FfL board proposes Felix Ehrensperger and Lorenz Schmid for honorary membership.

Decision: The proposal of the Board is approved unanimously.

8. Activities 2025

- NIDEA: Stands on the 14th of June 2025 in various cities (Basel, Bern, Zurich) to inform the public about the importance of animal experiments.
- Campaign "Importance of basic research" and "Organoids"
- Campaign „Plants are patients too".
- FfL experts: short videos
- *Ad hoc* information for parliamentarians before relevant votes
- New concept for BioFokus
- Matura Award
- Round table STS, BLV, if required

9. Miscellaneous

None.

Iana Buch closes the General Assembly and invites everyone to listen to the presentation of Cristian Münz, followed by an Aperero outside.