

## Protocol

9<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Swiss Metabolomics Society

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Date and time:	11 <sup>th</sup> November 2023, 12:35 – 13:24
Place:	Remote ZOOM Meeting (51', (46') recorded)
Present:	Online participants, Board members (Julijana Ivanisevic (JI), Juan Zhang (JZ), Mojgan Masoodi (MM), Christian Berchtold (CB), Julien Bocard (JB), Pablo Sinues (PS), Endre Laczko (EL), Serge Rudaz (SR)
Chair:	SR
Protocol:	SR
Agenda:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Welcome (Agenda)</li><li>2. Acceptance of the minutes of the GA 2022</li><li>3. Reports and communications:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) President's communication</li><li>b) Membership situation (EL)</li><li>c) Treasurer's and Trustee's Report Financial aspects – (DT)</li><li>d) External communication (CB) / Visibility - Web (JB)</li></ol></li><li>4. Election of the Committee 2024 – 2025</li><li>5. Perspectives 2024 and Proposals</li><li>6. Miscellaneous</li></ol>

## General Assembly

**NOTE: The official GA presentation is part of the protocol (power point document)**

### 1. Welcome

The president (SR) welcomes all members and prospects of the Swiss Metabolomics Society and starts the meeting on time. The president reminds the GA that the zoom session will be recorded. The GA accepted the recording.

### 2. Acceptance of the Agenda 2023 and minutes of the GA 2022

The agenda 2023 is confirmed by the assembly (**Unanimity**) and approved the GA minutes 2022 (**Unanimity**).

### 3. Reports and communications

#### 3a. President's communication / 8<sup>th</sup> Annual & School / Sponsors

The president thanks all board members for their work. The current board was elected for two years, with their term ended with this year. The election (see 4.) should give to the SMS a new board starting 01.01.2024.

The president summarizes briefly SMS and SMS member activities 2023.

First of all, SR presented the activities towards the initiative “Swiss Cross - National School” proposed last year by Nicola Zamboni, where several CH laboratories (UniGE (SR), UniBE(MM), ETH (NZ), etc.) have contributed. Great Success.

The SMS Annual conference in Zurich (98 attendees – Frontiers in Metabolomics) was a success thank to the commitment of NZ, chair of this edition. The SMS was very thankful to internationally or nationally recognized researchers invited as speakers (Matej Orešič, Emma Schymanski, Louis-Felix Nothias, Hector Gallart-Ayala) as well as and young researchers from SMS member labs (e.g. Mélina Richard, Sergey Girel, Sofia Tsouka, etc.). SR thanked all sponsors for their important support. Responsible for the successful attraction and management of sponsors is board member and Vice-President PS. The latter reported that 7 standing commercial sponsors (Agilent, Sciex, Bruker, Shimadzu, Thermo Fisher, Waters, Merck) were invited to present their activities in a short communication each (5') within the meeting.

SR highlighted the participation of many SMS members at the Metabolomics 2023 Conference at Niagara Fall. With two travel grants, the SMS supported the participation of two students from the SMS member labs. A delegation of the SMS board (Vice-P: PS) was present at the IMS affiliates meeting.

### 3b. Membership situation 2022 (EL/SR)

The membership figures have been presented. The number of members slightly increased in 2022 from 163 to 181. In detail, there are 111 individual memberships, 7 institutional Memberships and 7 Company Memberships. As usual, the list of members is proposed to be voted in block by the general assembly.

A slight modification of the fees is proposed only for the Sponsoring members which could be 1100 CHF for Company/Association starting 2024. PS is invited to explain this change to the GA. « Regular ». No changes for the other fees: Individuals 30 CHF // 500 CHF Private entities // 300 CHF University / Academic laboratory.

### **Membership situation, List and Fees: Unanimity**

After the vote, a member (Vera) ask the SMS to send her a reminder on a yearly basis for the fees. SR indicates that a mail is send at the beginning of every year to all the member present in the list, but it remains difficult to have always the updated email informations.

### 3c. Treasurer's and Trustee's Report Financial aspects – (SR, in the name of DT)

The financial report was presented by DT for the year 2022. The society relies on three pillars of members: individual memberships, institutional memberships (academia) and company sponsors. For the first year, the fees could be payed combined with the scientific meeting which was a advantage. The society is financially healthy. The financial report has been audited and confirmed to be correct with more than 18 kCHF of reliable funds. After that, DT indicate the great job done to obtain a stable financial situation.

The two new financial auditors (Isabel Meister – Tobias Fuhrer) were warmly owed by DT and SR for their support.

### **Financial report: Unanimity**

### 3d. Visibility - Web (JB) // External communication (CB)

JB stated that the web site is the key communication tool of the SMS. The expertise map is growing, currently it lists 22 groups, members and non-members. As already communicated in previous GA 2021, all metabolomics groups (independent of membership status) are welcome to join the expertise map. JB explain the security aspects and present the essential maintenance solution contracted (700 CHF/y) which include the web hosting. JB present the activity reports which demonstrated the repeated attacks from hackers on our website. SR thanks JB for his work and initiatives.

JZ confirmed that even the website is the official communication channels, and present the others platforms of SMS communication, The reported on the additional communication activities through social media. X (exTwitter) SMS has 1435 followers and LinkedIn counts 1237 followers and 1016 connections. Although some concerns were raised by CB and JZ, especially regarding X, they proposed to continue the activities on all social media(s) in the current form and channels, and to discuss options within the board. Slack was also presented again.

### 4. Election of the Board for 2 years (2024-2025):

After 6 years as President of the SMS, SR showed great motivation to continue his engagement with the new board, but not anymore as President.

He presented the list of board candidates (Pablo Sinues (PS), Julijana Ivanisevic (JI), Christian Berchtold (CB), Julien Boccard (JB) and Mojgan Masoodi (MM) as well as Hector Gallart-Ayala (HGA) who applied for the first time and presented himself to the GA.

### **Election of the new board: Unanimity**

Congratulations to all of them. SR thanks warmly all board members (Juan Zhang, David Tonoli, Endre Lazko) who have decided to retire for the next period.

According to the new status, the board attribute the role of each member in the first board meeting. PS and JI will probably share the Presidency (to be confirmed at the first meeting of 2024).<sup>1</sup>

### 5. Perspectives 2024, Proposals and 5. Miscellaneous

SR points to the next SMS 2024 conference to be held at Biozentrum (August 29, 2024) in Basel. PS briefly present the project with a save the date. SR thanked PS for the explanations, actions taken and pre-organisation.

No comments or additional points were raised by the GA attendees.

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<sup>1</sup> Upon the first meeting of the new elected Board, the distribution of functions within the Board is as follows:

Dr. Julien Boccard: Secretary  
Dr. Hector Gallart-Ayala: Treasurer  
Prof. Mojgan Masoodi: Board Member  
Dr. Christian Berchtold: Board Member  
Prof. Serge Rudaz: Board Member  
Prof. Pablo Sinues: Co-President  
Dr. Julijana Ivanisevic: Co-President

End of General Assembly

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Rudaz', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Prof. Serge Rudaz  
President of the SMS