



Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

Lecturers' Conference (KdL)

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Activity report of the Lecturers' Conference (KdL), 2019-2020

KITE Award 2020

The call for nominations for the KITE Award went out for the third time early in 2019. A record number of 34 projects were submitted, from which the selection committee selected four finalists. On 6 March these finalists presented their projects to the KdL, which then chose the winner. Unfortunately the award ceremony had to be shifted from 23 April to 15 September, meaning that the long-awaited announcement of the winning project must wait until then. At the ceremony not only will the four finalists be presented, but all nominated projects in the framework of a poster session. In this way ETH members and guests will gain an overview of the impressive quality and originality of these projects.

KdL contact person

The last activity report mentioned preparations to name a KdL contact person for members of the teaching faculty. A pilot phase began in summer 2019, when Prof. Gudela Grote kindly offered to perform this function. This pilot was meant to end on 30 March, but it has now been extended to the end of 2020 due to the low number of enquiries received up to now. Any decision on continuance can thus wait until current discussions at the Executive Board level to define the role of reporting points and ombudspersons have been concluded.

Working groups

The conclusions drawn by the working group on the first year of studies were addressed at the Rector's Teaching Retreat in January 2020. Further steps will now be taken by the Rectorate and the departments. A further working group headed by Brian Adey addressed the question of whether ETH should introduce the category "Professors of Practice". It concluded that while in many fields it is very relevant for professors to have in-depth practical experience, this should be addressed in the normal recruiting process. This conclusion was communicated to the Rector in writing.

Guests

Various guests attended plenary KdL meetings for in-depth exchanges on current themes:

- President Joel Mesot on his experiences after one year in office and on the launch of the rETHink project
- L. Vonesch and M. Ghisletti on the upcoming Leadership Development programme
- Prof. P. Ermanni on the current status of the expansion of academic continuing education and the founding of the School for Continuing Education

Successor to Sarah Springman as Rector: Outlook for the nomination procedure

It is the KdL's task to prepare the procedure for nominating the Rector's successor. The corresponding timeline was determined in consultation with the Rector and the President. An invitation to professors to nominate candidates will go out at the close of the General Conference of the Teaching Cadre. The new Rector will be nominated at the Professor's Conference on 15 December 2020.

Results of consultation procedures

In the year of this report the KdL took a position in the following consultation procedures:

- Regulations on reports by ETH members regarding inappropriate behaviour and the mandate of ombudspersons
- Strateg and development plan 2021-24
- Splitting of the first-year examinations – Evaluation of the pilot project
- rETHink
- Bylaws of the Conciliation Committee as per the *Gleichstellungsgesetz für den ETH-Bereich* [equal opportunities law for the ETH domain; in German]
- Revision of the ETH Zurich Disciplinary Code
- Development of doctoral programmes
- Guidelines for spin-offs

The respective position statements may be viewed on the KdL website (www.kdl.ethz.ch), in addition to further information on the KdL including members and meeting dates.

Zurich, April 2020