



ELSA



EPFL SCIENTIFIC STAFF ASSOCIATION

Faculty Retreat 2026

Kelvin Lau, Mahsa/Fatemeh Fazlali, Timour Jestin

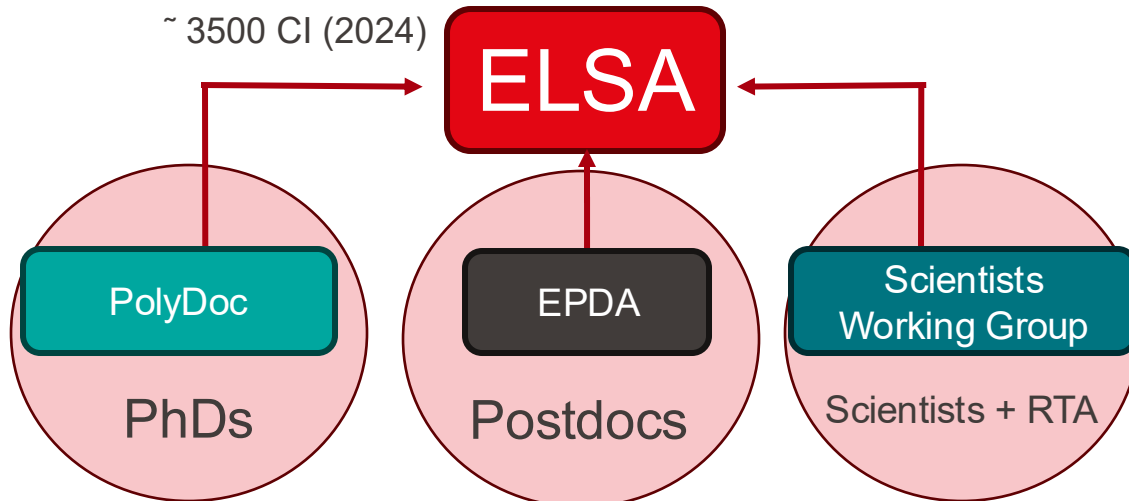
EPFL



ELSA

EPFL SCIENTIFIC
STAFF ASSOCIATION

*Formerly ACIDE (1984-2024)



POLYDOC



■ **Corps Intermédiaire (fr) / Scientific (en)
Staff / Mittelbau (de)**

- Collab. Scien. Senior / *Research and Teaching Associate*
- Collab. Scien. / *Postdocs + Scientists*
- Assistants / *Assistants*
- Doctorants / *PhD*

Art 17 O-EPFZ-EPFL
Art 32 ETH Act.

Who We Are ?

Current Committee



President

Kelvin Lau



Eloi Collette



Philippine Milward

Clemens Wöllhaf

Julika Radecke

Partner Association



POLYDOC

President

Berlind Vosberg



Co-President

Mahsa/Fatemeh Fazlali



Co-President

Barry Ryan



Anne-Laure Mellier



Maria Pavlou



Salim Najib

What We Do?

- Connect the community
- Facilitate communication
- Shape the future



We engage with EPFL

- New Initiatives
- Consultations

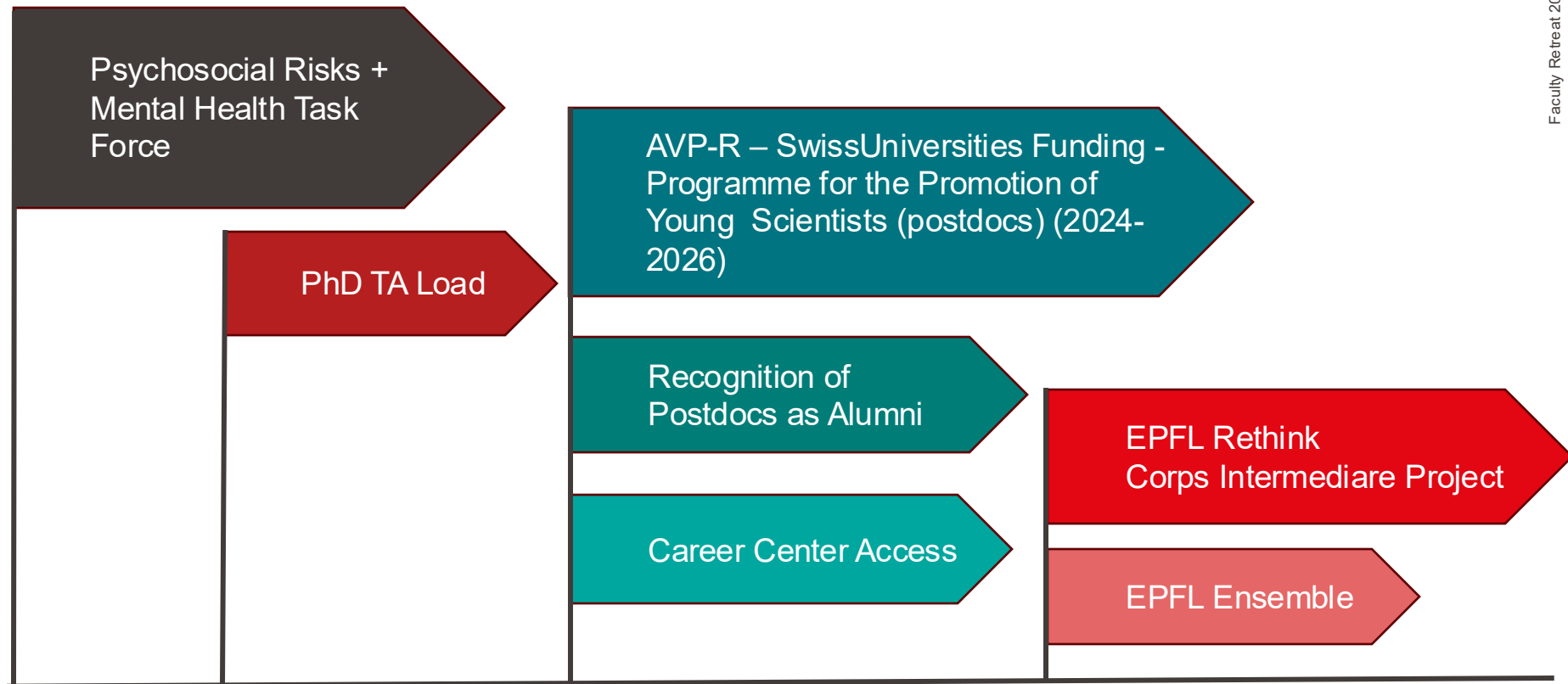
We support the CI directly

- Events
- Career Development /CED, Alumni Centre
- Health and Mental Wellness- Peer2Peer Counselling Team

Liaise with ActionUNI

- Swisswide association of all Scientific Staff

Our ongoing work, achievements and collaborations



ELSA's current Topics of Interests (general)

Mental Health

Communication

Recognition

Continuity

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< 25% of
scientists report
significant
burnout

New LEX on
Psych. Risks &
PhD Unit @
VPH

Increase in quality
of life at work

~45% of
scientists
report **MH**
symptoms

>50% of PhDs
worry for their
mental health

Affects daily
functions

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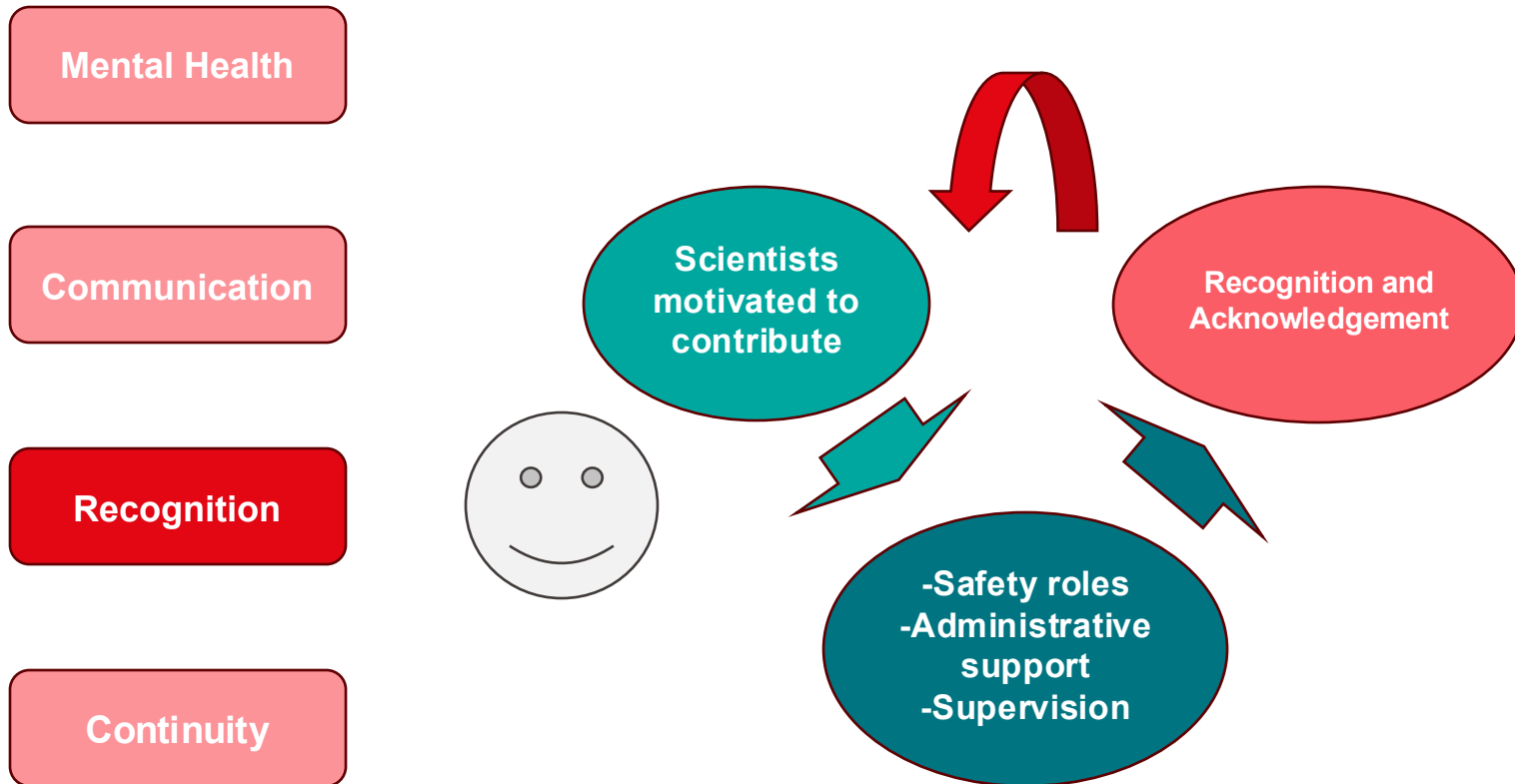
Who should I
contact for a
given issue ?

How do I
organise an
Exam, Event,
Etc ?

ELSA member

EPFL Simplify

ELSA's current Topics of Interests (general)



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ELSA's current Topics of Interests (Specifics)

*2026 PhD survey
(preliminary results)

PhDs

>75%*

Satisfied with
overall PhD
experience

>60%*

Satisfied with
supervision
experience

20%*

not satisfied
research
climate

PostDocs

Let's reduce these
disparities !

Good improvement
since 2019, **progress
can still be made !**

Scientists

>60%*

Supported for
future career

50%*

Satisfied by
mentor advice

>30%*

Not properly
advised for
future

ELSA's current Topics of Interests (Specifics)

PhDs

Precarious contracts – permits

PostDocs

Scientists



ELSA's current Topics of Interests (Specifics)

PhDs

1

Career and Professional Development

2

Recognition

PostDocs

3

Innovation

Scientists

EPFL Rethink – CI Project

-Redefine, clarify and highlight

