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Report on the session of the ISIC Steering Committee – Monday, December 11th 2017

Present: Profs Nicolai Cramer (NC), Lyndon Emsley (LE), Sandrine Gerber (SG), Xile Hu (XH), Vassily Hatzimanikatis (VH).

Excused: Profs Thomas Rizzo (TR) and Jérôme Waser (JW).

Absent: Prof. Ursula Roethlisberger (UR).

The session, chaired by LE, is opened at 10.00 am in room CH B3 391.

1) Update on faculty hiring

Position in Chemical Biology

LE reports that 92 candidates answered to the call. Among the files, 4 applications were ranked at the maximal grade by all members of the hiring committee, which is a very good sign. The interviews will be held in the week of 15.01.2018. Another more senior candidate was identified by the search committee and will be invited in the same week as the junior candidates.

PSI/EPFL joint position in Electrochemistry

The process is ongoing. The VPR needs to validate the details of the hiring procedure and to approve the hiring committee.

EPFL Valais Wallis, phase 2

The chair descriptions prepared by J. Luterbacher and approved during the last session of the ISIC Steering Committee (16.11.2017) have been transferred to VPR in view of a potential expansion of ISIC in Sion, in the domain of biocatalysis/biochemical engineering.

2) Update on 2018 budget

LE mentions that the 3% cut which was announced will be applied in 2018. At the level of ISIC, this cut will be implemented by hiring a faculty member in Chemical Biology (replacement of K. Johnsson) at the level of a PATT instead of a senior hiring.

LE mentions that the VPR launched a call for strategic projects (CHF 2 Mio range): it seems that budget reduction will be used to provide more funds for strategic projects.

3) Miscellaneous

At the next session of the ISIC Council, a new member of the Steering Committee will be proposed for election to replace Ursula Roethlisberger.

The next ISIC Council will be held on Monday, 15.01.2018 at 3.00 pm.

The next sessions of the ISIC Steering Committee will be held on:

Friday, January 26th 2018, 2.00 pm

Tuesday, February 27th 2018, 3.00 pm

Tuesday, March 27th 2018, 3.00 pm

The session is closed at 11.00 am.