

Annual Report 2024

1. General

1.1 Meetings, meetings and retreat

The following meetings were held in the reporting year:

1.1.1 Meeting on 11 March 2024 online

The budget and annual accounts were approved at the first meeting in 2024. The meeting was used to gather topics for the 2024 retreat.

1.1.2 Meeting on 10 June 2024 in Bern

At the meeting on 10 June, the focus was on the PgB period 25-28. All members presented their individual project ideas. Existing and new ideas for cooperation projects were also presented.

1.1.3 Retreat on 26/27 August 2024 in Basel

On the first day, the members discussed various scenarios for the possible design and implementation of an iDEAS office. Helene Fügler and Karin Gilland Lutz gave an input entitled 'From KOFRAH to iDEAS - Advancing Equal Opportunity in a Changing ERI Context'. In the afternoon, the focus was on the topic of accreditation. Helene Fügler discussed the legal embedding of equal opportunities work at universities. Sabine Kradolfer and Maya Dougoud then gave an input on the topic of accreditation and how universities contribute to achieving equal opportunities goals. Various issues were then discussed in World Cafés.

The second day focussed on the topic of disability. At the beginning, Natalie Berger, Head of the Disability Rights Office of Basel Stadt, gave an input on the legal basis and explained the cantonal perspective. Matthias Leicht-Miranda from the Federal Office for Equality for People with Disabilities (EBGB) then addressed the national level. Finally, Nathalie Quartenoud Macherel from the University of Fribourg presented the platform for students with autism.

1.1.4 Meeting of 21 November 2024 online

At the last meeting in 2024, a possible increase in membership fees was discussed. The members decided against an increase for 2024. In view of the relief package announced by the federal government, which also affects the PgB 2025-28 in particular, it was also decided not to develop the idea of the iDEAS office any further at the moment. The Sexual Harassment Awareness Day (SHAD) 2025, the iDEAS anniversary in 2026 and the cancellation/reduction of PgB were also discussed.

1.1.5 Board meetings

As a rule, the Executive Board meetings were held prior to the iDEAS meetings. Four ordinary meetings (all online) were held in the reporting year. There were also additional preparatory meetings for the organisation of the iDEAS meetings and the retreat. Various matters continued to be dealt with by correspondence.

1.2 Personal

There were personnel changes in the composition of iDEAS in 2024.

1.2.1 Members

Claudia Willen has represented the University of Bern in iDEAS since 1 January 2024.

1.2.2 Executive Board

There were no changes to the Executive Board in 2024. Due to sabbaticals on the part of Verena Witzig and Pia Ammann, the Executive Board met in a smaller composition for part of the year.

1.2.3 Management

Gaia Fortunato continued to manage the organisation.

1.2.4 Further meetings

On 18 January 2024, iDEAS organised an exchange meeting between all Swiss higher education institutions. The new federal programme PgB 2025-2028 was the basis for discussion. Various project ideas were presented and discussed.

2 Thematic priorities

2.1 Federal programme 2021-2024

The various projects led by iDEAS members were also continued in 2024 (e.g. H.I.T. programme, SHAD). In November 2024, a final conference was held throughout Switzerland, organised by the programme management in collaboration with the Think Tank Gender & Diversity, in which most iDEAS members took part.

2.1.1 Think Tank Gender & Diversity

Various PgB projects led by iDEAS members actively participated in and presented at the FORUM coordinated by the Think Tank Gender & Diversity. The Think Tank Gender & Diversity will end with the PgB term at the end of 2024 and will not be continued.

2.2 Federal programme 2025-2028

The PgB applications were submitted in autumn and the universities received the final decision regarding funding from swissuniversities at the end of the year. The project



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period was temporarily reduced from four to one year due to cost-cutting measures. The reorganisation required a considerable amount of time and coordination.

2.3 Further activities

- (1) Consultation on the partial revision of the Disability Equality Act
- (2) Response letter regarding further action PgB Chancengerechtigkeit - Equité 2025-2028

March 2025

Signed: Helene Füger