EPFL’s three missions according to the Federal Act

Education
of scientists, engineers & architects

Research
Advanced, fundamental & applied

Technology Transfer
to industry & society

Caroline Vandevyver – Gendered Innovations meeting 2017
5 Schools
13 Sections

ENAC
Architecture, Civil Engineering, Environmental Science & Engineering

SB
Mathematics Chemistry Physics

STI
Electrical Engineering Microengineering Mechanical Engineering Materials Science

IC
Computer Science Communication Science

SV
Life Sciences & Technology Bioengineering

2 Colleges

CDM
Management of Technology Financial Engineering

CDH
Human & Social Sciences

7 Interdisciplinary Centers

Transport, Energy, Neuroprosthetics, Design (EPFL+ECAL Lab) etc...

26 Institutes

350 Laboratories and Research Groups
EPFL Neuchâtel - Microcity
EPFL IMT Ne: 200-250 students & scientists
CSEM: 250-300 scientists & staff
11 chairs including 3 sponsored research chairs:
(Patek Philippe and PX Group and Richemont)

EPFL Valais Wallis
15 research chairs in the fields of energy (hydraulic, biomass, CO2...), health (biotech), bioengineering (SUVA) and ophthalmology (IRO) EPFL-HES campus in Sion
250-300 scientists & staff

Campus Biotech Geneva
Neuro/Immuno-engineering
(10-12 research chairs)
Human Brain Project (HBP)
Center for Neuroprosthetics (CNP)
EPFL-UNIGE research center
17'000m²

Blue Factory –
Fribourg Project Smart Living Lab
4 sponsored research chairs
(2 by the canton of Fribourg + 2 from EPFL)
1 Invited Professor
50 scientists & staff

Caroline Vandevyver – Gendered Innovations meeting 2017
Gender dimension in research content

European teens – especially girls – dream about cars

17.03.17 - A study on mobility patterns among young people shows that under-18s have a very positive image of cars. The researchers’ approach relied heavily on social media.

Food data at your fingertips

22.11.16 - EPFL is launching openfood.ch, a website that provides the public with data on more than 14,000 food products sold in Switzerland. The website’s data set will be a real gold mine when it comes to developing applications and innovative projects aimed at improving people’s diet.
Gender dimension in research content

The robot Thymio is finding its niche in French schools

03.06.16 - Thymio, the teaching robot designed by EPFL and widely used in French-speaking Switzerland, is now making inroads elsewhere in Europe. In France, it has been incorporated in an important initiative to teach digital sciences in nursery and primary schools.

@EPFL

Deprivation: a decisive factor in obesity

25.01.17 - A joint study involving Lausanne University Hospital (CHUV) and the Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) shows that people with a genetic predisposition to obesity are more likely to develop the condition if they find themselves in a situation of deprivation. The city of Lausanne was used as a test site by the researchers.

The study shows that targeting prevention measures for weight gain on specific factors are not enough. © jStock
Gender dimension in research content

The Human Brain Project, which strives to accelerate brain-related medicine. This acceleration will be achieved by research programmes into simulation and multi-scale models, enabling Research Infrastructure.

Young Researchers Event: Integrating neuroscience data into models and simulations.
Informs the EPFL research community on funding opportunities

Provides support in the application process & contracting for public and not-for-profit funding

Is responsible for ethical aspects linked to EPFL research projects

Provides support in the management of large collaborative research projects
Gender and Excellence: Challenges in Research Funding.
Focus on gendered dimensions in the perception and evaluation of excellence as well as on the gender perspective in research: need to take into account potential sex and gender differences with respect to the way research is carried out.
European Funding

Working towards gender equality is an essential part of European research and innovation policy. New developments related to careers, decision-making and, most recently, how the gender dimension\(^1\) is considered in research and innovation content have been implemented.

\(^1\) Taking into account as relevant the biological characteristics and the social and cultural features of women and men.
Gender in H2020: 3 objectives

1. Gender balance in decision making processes
2. Gender balance in research teams at all levels
3. Gender dimension in research and innovation (R&I) content

Source: SWAFS NCP, 2016
The propensity of integrating a gender dimension into research content is increasing. However, this is a new indicator, numbers should be seen as baseline levels, allowing their evolution to be monitored in the future.

Source: SHE Figures 2015, EC
Research Office – Our services in a nutshell

**Pre-award**
- **ReO**
  - Promotion of funding opportunities
  - Proposal pre-screening
  - Proposal editing
  - Grant application support

**Award**
- **ReO**
  - GAP & Signature
  - Ethical Clearance Report
  - Data Management Plan
  - GrantsDB management

**Post-award**
- **ReO/SF/Library/RH**
  - Account opening (SF)
  - Financial reporting & Audits (SF)
  - Purchase of equipment (ReO/DABS)
  - Ethics – Follow-Up (ReO)
  - Timekeeping – Follow-Up (ReO & HR)
  - Amendments – formal notifications (ReO)
  - Data Management (Library/ReO/VPSI)

**Close-out**
- **ReO/SF/VPSI**
  - Financial Audits (SF)
  - Ethics Audits (ReO)
  - DMP Audits (VPSI)
  - Data Storage (VPSI)
Role ReO – gender dimension in research content

➢ Draw **attention to gender dimension** in the content of R&I
  ▪ means integrating sex and gender analysis into research.
  ▪ taking into account biological characteristics and social/cultural features of both women and men in R&I.

➢ Organization of awareness raising **events**

**Pre-award ReO**

- Promotion of funding opportunities
- Proposal pre-screening
- Proposal editing
- Grant application support

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**Workshop – Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)**

*Aim*: to raise awareness about the concept of RRI and the RRI Toolkit among all stakeholders involved – Focus on outreach/advocacy on RRI with the ultimate aim – implementation of RRI.
Role ReO – gender dimension in research content

Pre-award
ReO

- Promotion of funding opportunities
- Proposal pre-screening
- Proposal editing
- Grant application support

- Bring researchers in contact with
  - Equal opportunities office
  - College of Humanities CDH

"Gendered Innovations" employs methods of sex and gender analysis to create new knowledge; Website contains checklists for different research fields!!

http://ec.europa.eu/research/gendered-innovations/

- Promotion of funding opportunities
- Proposal pre-screening
- Proposal editing
- Grant application support
Role ReO – gender dimension in research content

Pre-award

ReO

- Promotion of funding opportunities
- Proposal pre-screening
- Proposal editing
- Grant application support

H2020 WP:
Some topics require a specific gender analysis

Application form
"Where relevant describe how sex and/or gender analysis is taken into account in the project's content"

Reporting
Consortium shall report on the gender dimension if relevant as part of the deliverables.

Grant Agreement
Gender dimension is part of the DOA

Evaluation
Experts assess the inclusion of the gender dimension under the excellence criterion.

Source: SWAFS NCP, 2016
Role ReO – gender dimension in research content

- Include partner(s) with *gender expertise*
- Use check lists from *Gendered Innovations* project
- Answer question 1.3 of the *application form* on gender / sex analysis
- Training on *gender equality* is an eligible cost
- Leaving out gender dimension is a lost opportunity on innovation and weakens excellence
- *Gender balance* in research teams is a ranking factor

**Pre-award**

**ReO**

- Promotion of funding opportunities
- Proposal pre-screening
- Proposal editing
- Grant application support

*Source:* SWAFS NCP, 2016
Role ReO – gender dimension in research content

- **Start-to-Run** workshops for large projects
  - Employment of project team members: European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers
  - Gender Dimension
- **Follow-up on reporting issues**
Role ReO – gender dimension in research content

Close-out

ReO/SF/VPSI
- Financial Audits (SF)
- Ethics Audits (ReO)
- DMP Audits (VPSI)
- Data Storage (VPSI)

- Article 32 of the H2020 GA: RECRUITMENT & WORKING CONDITIONS for researchers
  - Preparation of audits on Gender Issues
- Follow-up on reporting issues
Thank you!