ETH zürich

life

ETH community magazine
October 2020

From Bergün to Singapore

ETH's sites around the world

Sustainable mobility

ETH Link is going electric

From 14 September 2020, electric articulated buses will run between the Hönggerberg and Zentrum campuses. The new ETH Link buses are 18 metres long and fully electric. They have room for 38 seated and 93 standing passengers and can accommodate two wheelchairs. For ETH members who want to stay connected during the journey, the buses offer public wi-fi and USB charging sockets. The ETH Link will now depart from the Zentrum campus and from the Haldenegg stop (destination Hönggerberg) four minutes earlier so the buses can be charged.
www.ethz.ch/electric-link →

Key figure

245

There was a spectacular sight to be seen on the Hönggerberg campus in mid-August, when a special crane was used to install a 245-tonne circular concrete chamber. The chamber serves as the housing of a geotechnical centrifuge that can simulate earthquakes and their effects on soils and buildings. There are only three centrifuge facilities of a similar size in the whole of Europe. In fact, with a diameter of 9 metres and the ability to accelerate 2 tonnes of material at 250 g, it is one of the largest in the world.
www.ethz.ch/centrifuge →

Photo: Nicola Pitaro

Expansion of Executive Board

Two new female vice presidents elected

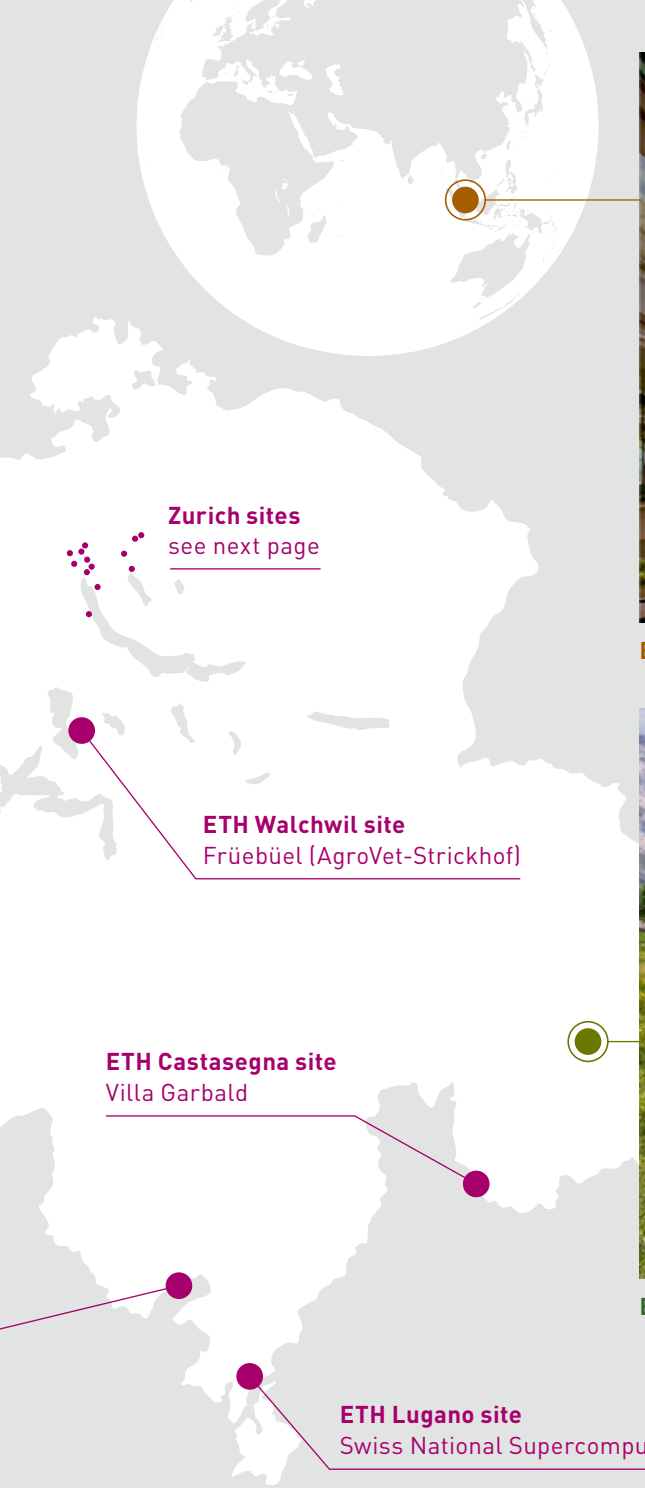
ETH Zurich is expanding its Executive Board in order to be among the best universities in the world in terms of management culture and personnel development and to secure its position as one of Switzerland's innovation drivers in the long term. At the request of ETH President Joël Mesot, the ETH Board has appointed human resources expert Julia Dannath-Schuh as the new Vice President for Personnel Development and Leadership and ETH Professor Vanessa Wood as the new Vice President for Knowledge Transfer and Corporate Relations. Julia Dannath-Schuh will strengthen the Executive Board from 1 November 2020, Vanessa Wood will start on 1 January 2021.
www.ethz.ch/two-vice-presidents →

Photo: Markus Bertschi

New ETH blog

Five values for ETH – rETHink!

Responsibility, openness, diversity, team spirit, excellence: are these the values we want to live up to in the future? Or are we already living them? Do these words come up when you describe ETH? Or do you associate other values with our university? The "Cultural Development" workstream of the rETHink project invites all ETH members to participate in the discussion of values. Share your thoughts with the community and write a contribution in the rETHink blog:
www.ethz.ch/rethink-blog →



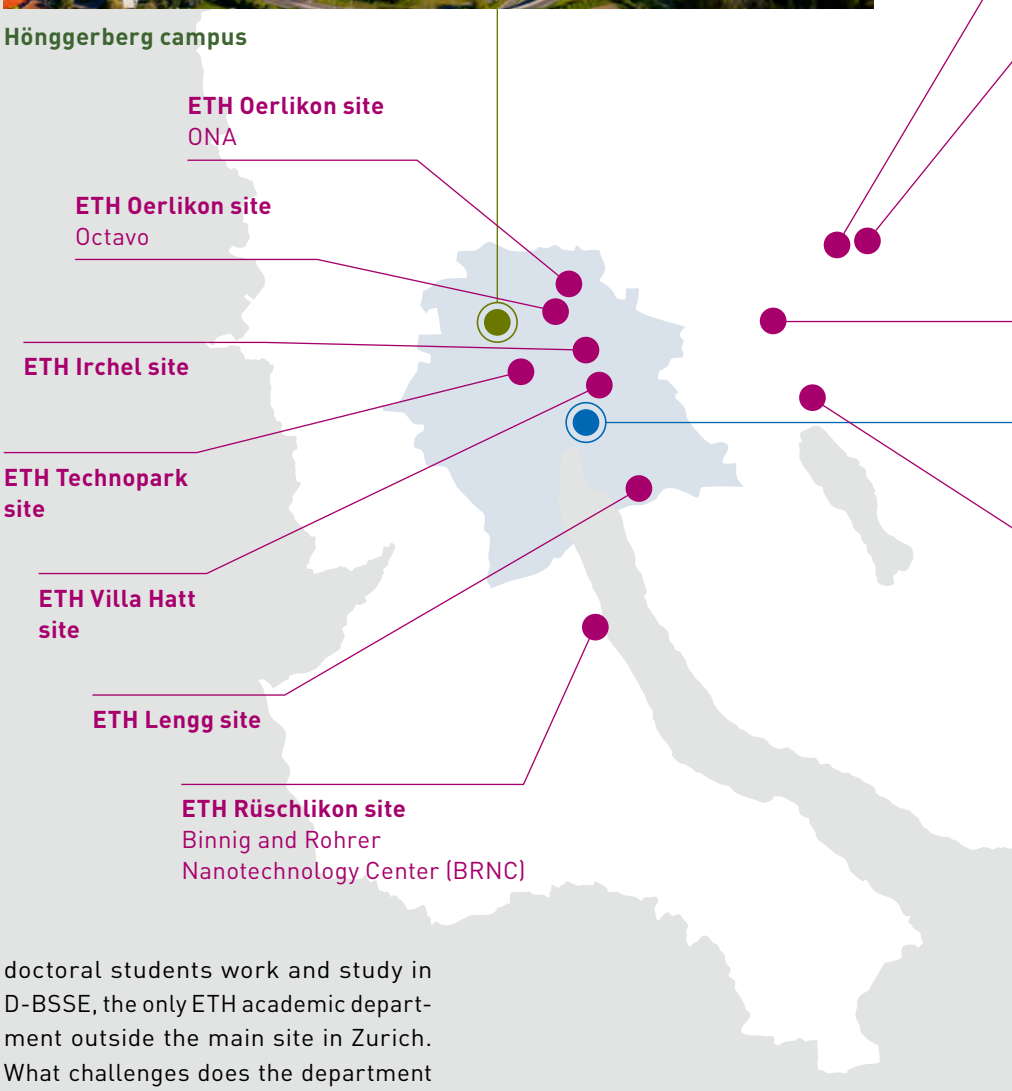
ETH Singapore site Singapore-ETH Centre (SEC)

ETH Bergün site Alp Weissenstein (AgroVet-Strickhof)

the University of Zurich. The aim of the new office and research infrastructure is to provide a boost for Lindau – where ETH has operated its Research Station for Plant Sciences since the 1970s – and to strengthen the links between university research and agricultural life.

It is fairly obvious that direct links to agricultural life are few and far between in Zurich city centre. But why does AgroVet–Strickhof need three sites in Switzerland? The different geographical locations make it possible to cover all of the altitudes relevant to Swiss agriculture. Situated at 1,000 metres above sea level, the Früebüel site in the canton of Zug is ideal for research relating to farms in the foothills of the Alps. For example, researchers are looking at how feed affects the metabolism of suckler cows. The cows spend the summer at the Alp Weissenstein research station in Bergün in the canton of Graubünden. This additional site at over 2,000 metres above sea level allows researchers to investigate the effects of the Alpine altitude on the health and performance of the animals.

The researchers use the sites as a platform for their projects and can make use of the infrastructure as needed. In this way, they are able to benefit both from the services that Strickhof provides for the entire agricultural centre in Lindau and from the services on the Zentrum and Hönggerberg campuses.



Site versus campus

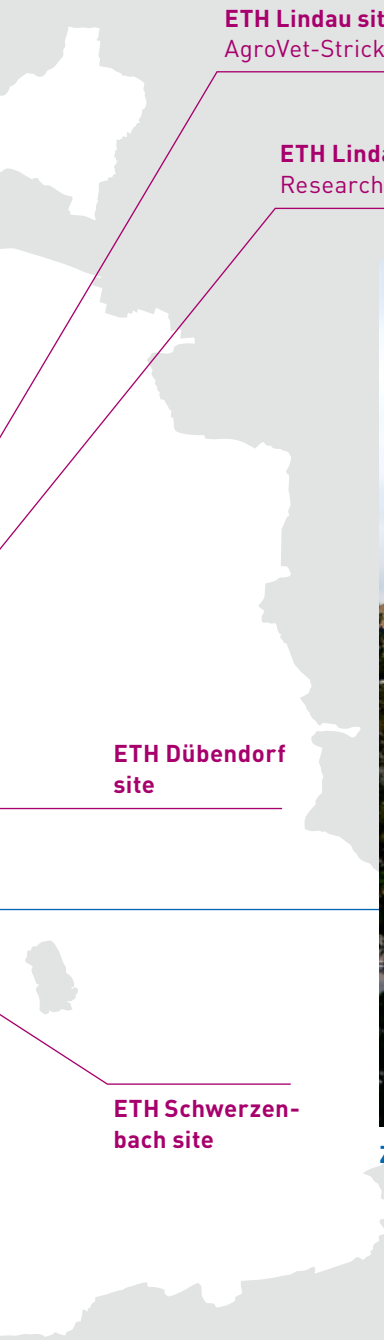
A full spectrum of teaching, research, knowledge transfer and services is what distinguishes a campus from other ETH sites – including the provision of catering and leisure facilities. According to Ulrich Weidmann, Vice President for Infrastructure, ETH is consciously pursuing a two-campus strategy with its main site in Zurich: "The larger a site, the easier it is to provide good services. Smaller sites don't have the necessary critical mass." Focusing on two campuses also brings financial benefits – heating and logistics, for example, can be operated much more efficiently, and therefore more ecologically, on the Hönggerberg campus.

Only a few sites – the Swiss National Supercomputing Centre in Ticino, the Singapore–ETH Centre and the Basel site, for example – have their own HR or IT staff. Although teaching and research also take place in Basel, the site does not count as a campus as it does not accommodate multiple academic departments.

Life sciences cluster

With the local pharmaceutical companies, the University of Basel and its hospitals, researchers in the Department of Biosystems Science and Engineering (D-BSSE) in Basel are ideally located for interdisciplinary projects in the fields of medicine and life sciences. And the partner organisations benefit in turn from the expertise in engineering and data sciences that ETH brings to Basel. Examples of successful collaborations include the Basel Personalized Health Initiative and the Botnar Research Center for Child Health, founded jointly by D-BSSE and the University of Basel.

Around 300 employees, 20 professors and over 300 Master's students and doctoral students work and study in D-BSSE, the only ETH academic department outside the main site in Zurich. What challenges does the department face due to its special location? "There is still too little being done to connect research in Basel to ETH Zurich," says Niko Beerenwinkel, Head of D-BSSE. "We want to make ETH more visible here. And conversely, we want to make people at ETH Zurich more aware of the Basel site and highlight opportunities for research collaborations." The new BSS building, which is set to open in 2022, will help to strengthen ETH's presence in Basel. The research and teaching building will unite all D-BSSE research groups under one roof, close to important partners.



Zentrum campus

Global challenges in Asia

Putting the 80-kilometre distance between D-BSSE and the main site into perspective, ETH's only site outside Switzerland is over 10,000 kilometres from Zurich. The Singapore–ETH Centre for Global Environmental Sustainability (SEC) was founded ten years ago in the vibrant city state of Singapore in the heart of Asia. The centre allows ETH to carry out research aimed at developing ecologically sustainable solutions to global challenges. Examples of such challenges include urbanisation, which is progressing extremely rapidly in Asia, the resilience of complex social and infrastructure systems, and the development of new health technologies. Inter- and transdisciplinarity – something that characterises all research projects at the SEC – is particularly encouraged in CREATE Tower, where over 1,000 researchers from top universities such as Cambridge, MIT, Berkeley and the National University of Singapore (NUS) work together very closely.

The SEC has set up a local team – mostly made up of Singaporeans – to look after its HR, finance, infrastructure and communication services. Research administration, on the other hand, is managed by ETH in Zurich.

Years before the coronavirus crisis, the SEC mastered the art of remote communication in order to bridge the gap between Singapore and Zurich. In order to minimise flying back and forth, the SEC's aim is to extend the time spent at both sites. "The almost perfect virtual communication between the sites often hides the fact that there are significant climatic, cultural and political differences," says Gerhard Schmitt, who serves as Head of the Singapore–ETH Centre. "But this challenge is also what makes living and working in Singapore so appealing."

The outlook for the future

Despite the limited space available at the main site, ETH Zurich needs to be able to continue expanding its research into new areas in the future. According to Ulrich Weidmann, the greatest challenge will be finding premises to support this academic growth in a timely manner. In October, Zurich's municipal council approved the outlines of the plans to further expand the Hönggerberg campus. In addition, moving two Executive Board domains – Infrastructure, as well as Personnel Development and Leadership – to the Octavo Oerlikon site will free up space for research on the Zentrum campus.

And what about the other sites? Is the expenditure for operation and coordination justified? "Yes, because the strategy of concentrating resources on the main site means that the infrastructure and laboratories in Zurich are very expensive," says Weidmann. "If we didn't have the other sites, ETH would simply not be able to pursue many of its areas of research." ■

www.ethz.ch/campus-en →

“Sitting is the new smoking”

ETH Zurich has had its own occupational physician since March 2019. In this interview, Leonhard Sigel describes his experiences of the crisis, and why he would recommend dynamic sitting to everyone – but not necessarily the flu vaccine!

Interview Anna Maltsev **Photos** Gian Marco Castelberg

Dr Sigel, as ETH Zurich's occupational physician, you have been in constant demand since February. How would you describe the past few months?
It has been a very intense and exciting time, but also very challenging from an emotional point of view. And this is true for all my colleagues in the Safety, Security, Health and Environment (SSHE) department who have been tackling this long-term crisis on both the mental and physical fronts. We have only been able to carry out our work thanks to the division of tasks and intensive discussions amongst the SSHE team.

Is there something in particular about this time that has stayed with you?
The support that we have received from all sides. For example, when Switzerland was faced with a shortage of protective material, we received numerous offers of help from Chinese universities. I think I can best describe the last six months as an incredible team effort, not only within SSHE but spread across all areas of ETH and also across universities to get us all safely through the crisis.

> "Visiting workplaces was always the highlight of my day before the pandemic."
>
> **Leonhard Sigel, ETH occupational physician**

What are your main tasks in the current crisis?
As part of the ETH crisis management team, I advise our team leader, Ulrich Weidmann, on protective measures from a medical perspective. Moreover, I am in regular contact with the cantonal medical officers in Zurich and advise ETH members on medical questions regarding the pandemic.

In your opinion, how has ETH managed the crisis so far?
We introduced the first measures very quickly and were generally a bit stricter than other similar organisations. This is mainly due to the fact that we have a very large international community at ETH and did not want to jeopardise the academic year under any circumstances. My impression is that everyone is on the same wavelength and understands that decisions that made sense a month ago might later have to be reconsidered due to new findings.

How many coronavirus cases have there been to date at ETH?
Fortunately, there have only been about two dozen cases among ETH members so far, all of which could be isolated early on.

And what happens when an ETH member tests positive?
The Cantonal Medical Service checks whether we have adhered to the ETH precautionary measures. If this is the case and we are dealing with one infected individual, then only the person affected has to self-isolate. However, I prefer it when line managers respond to a suspected case of COVID by having the whole team work from home as a preventive measure until the test results come back.

And outside of the coronavirus sphere, what are your typical tasks as an occupational physician at ETH?
In Occupational Safety & Health Protection, we have two staff members who organise first aid at the university and advise ETH members on questions regarding building pollutants, such as asbestos. I am responsible for risk analyses in the area of maternity protection. Working with my female colleagues, who provide first-hand experience and expertise on occupational safety issues in laboratories and workshops, I ensure that pregnant employees can work in labs without endangering their health or that of their unborn children. In addition, I analyse health complaints relating to the workplace to develop possible solutions and carry out individual consultations and training on ergonomics.

Can all ETH members take advantage of your consulting sessions?
Yes, anyone can contact me for a personal session. And don't forget, it's better to use these consultations as a preventive measure rather than only coming to me when you already have a problem.

What other factors can influence our health?
The most important factor is lack of exercise, which is a problem that we all tend to have. We should actually be exercising

for at least an hour a day, as this has an enormously positive impact on our well-being and mental health. The other factor is eating too much or eating the wrong things. Naturally, this includes the moderate consumption of alcohol, for example.

Have these factors changed in recent years?
It is becoming increasingly clear just how important it is to move and just how harmful it is to sit all day. Sitting is the new smoking. Even if you exercise for three hours in the evening, this will not compensate for the negative effects of sitting for long periods of time, including metabolic disorders such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and musculoskeletal disorders. I recommend that everyone gets up to walk around a bit every two hours – or ideally every hour! And dynamic sitting is also an excellent idea.

What do you mean by dynamic sitting?
You should adjust the backrest of your chair so that it moves and you can continuously rock forwards and backwards. This stimulates your circulation, protects the intervertebral discs and strengthens your core muscles. It is also a good idea to switch to walking meetings, preferably outside in the fresh air. This is beneficial from more than simply an ergonomic and epidemiological perspective, as walking also promotes the flow of thoughts and creativity.

We have come to that time of the year again for flu vaccinations, which the SSHE offers free of charge. Who should have the flu vaccine?
Since the national vaccine stocks are limited due to the length of the production process, only people with an increased risk of developing serious complications if they catch the flu should be vaccinated. This includes pregnant women, people with chronic illnesses, people aged 65 and over and people who are in close contact with someone from the aforementioned groups.

What are you looking forward to most when coronavirus restrictions come to an end?
I am looking forward to visiting more ETH members at their workplaces again to offer them advice and support – in other words, to prevent occupational diseases. Visiting workplaces was always the highlight of my day before the pandemic. And I'd like to think that I'm contributing not only to the health of ETH members, but also to their well-being and motivation. Because I think that healthy, happy and highly motivated employees are the driving force behind ETH! ■
www.ethz.ch/sgu-en →

"Even if you exercise for three hours in the evening, this will not compensate for the negative effects of sitting for long periods of time."

Leonhard Sigel, ETH occupational physician

Leonhard Sigel was born in Waiblingen near Stuttgart in 1966. He studied human medicine in Ulm and trained as a specialist in general internal medicine and occupational medicine. The 53-year-old also completed an MAS in Work and Health at ETH Zurich. Before joining ETH, Sigel's previous employers included the Swiss Federal Railways (SBB) and EPFL. He lives in Bern with his wife and two sons.

Finding your way through difficult situations

For those experiencing serious conflicts, threats or abuse in the workplace, it can often seem as though there is no way out. New regulations set out the procedure for dealing with difficult situations at ETH.

Text Norbert Staub

Markus T.* doesn't know what to do. The young scientist is using a laboratory at ETH for his doctoral work. He has been going there almost every day for over a year now. He enjoys his work, and to begin with he feels that he fits in well at the lab. When a set of samples is rendered unusable due to carelessness on Markus's part, it takes a lot of extra effort from the research group to rectify the damage.

One colleague is clearly resentful about the incident. He holds back at first, but then starts criticising Markus and his work in conversations with colleagues. He also makes derogatory comments directly to Markus, insinuating that he isn't up to the task and should look for another job. More and more of Markus's colleagues turn their backs on him and he feels as though he has no support. He tries to talk to the team leader about the situation but gets nowhere. He feels increasingly isolated and unhappy. Eventually, Markus looks at the Respect section of the ETH website and makes an appointment with ETH's new external ombudsperson.

Ask for advice early on

"Markus T. is doing the right thing," says Ernestine Hildbrand, a project manager in Human Resources. "Anyone who feels that there is a problem with their working environment should raise the issue with the appropriate contact person. Particularly if they feel they are being treated unfairly, harassed or even threatened." If possible, she recommends speaking to a manager or supervisor as the first port of call.

The range of contact and advice services available at ETH has grown over the last year, partly in response to incidents in previous years where employees were not shown the respect they deserved and conflicts occurred as a result. ETH has therefore appointed an external ombudsperson and launched Respect, an internal advice and conciliation service that specifically offers advice and assistance in cases of bullying, harassment and discrimination. An external, independent advice centre is also available.

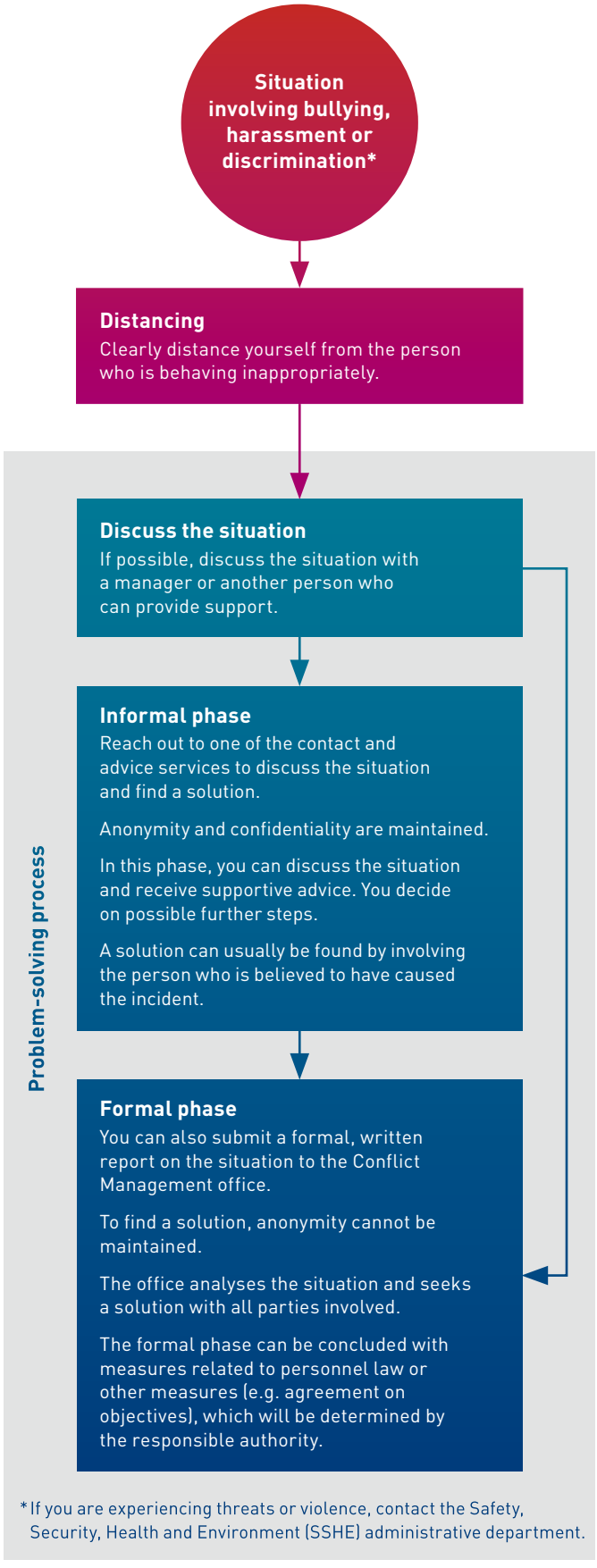
"At ETH Zurich, we expect everyone to treat each other with respect and appreciation," stresses Lukas Vonesch, Head of Human Resources. "We will not tolerate infringements of the ETH Code of Conduct – we will take action in consultation with those affected." The specific procedure to be followed when members of ETH Zurich report cases of inappropriate behaviour is set out in the regulations that came into force on 1 September 2020.

Involvement of all university groups

The ombudspersons, the University Assembly and the four university groups – including the Academic Association of Scientific Staff at ETH Zurich (AVETH) and the Association of Students at ETH Zurich (VSETH) – were all involved in putting together the regulations. Werner Wegscheider, Professor of Solid State Physics and President of the University Assembly, is satisfied with the result: "The roles of the various contact and advice services are now clearly defined." This also applies to the ombudspersons. Alongside the development of the regulations, the relevant provisions of the ETH Organisation Ordinance have also been revised.

> "The important thing is to contact one of the services at an early stage and get some advice. The sooner you do that, the easier it is to identify and de-escalate a conflict situation."
>
> **Ernestine Hildbrand, HR project manager**

Some of the greatest improvements lie in the details: "For the person reporting the problem, for example, it is important that the specialists are only permitted to revoke the anonymity of the person in question in the course of their investigations if that person gives their consent." There had been some uncertainty in this area in the past, he explains. "I am glad that we now have clear rules on how to handle anonymity, how to protect both sides and how to ensure a fair and confidential process," says Wegscheider.



*If you are experiencing threats or violence, contact the Safety, Security, Health and Environment (SSHE) administrative department.

Clear processes

The main characteristic of the reporting process is its two-part structure. In the initial, informal phase, the aim is to work with the person concerned to try and find a solution as quickly and easily as possible. In this phase, it is important that the person who reports the problem is in control of the next steps, that they are actively involved in the process and that their problem is handled confidentially. The focus in this phase is generally on personal advice and support. The specialists can organise a mediation, but only if requested by the person concerned.

If necessary, the person reporting the problem can move on to the next step and submit a written report to the Conflict Management office, thus initiating the formal phase. Anonymity is revoked in this phase, as both parties need to be heard. "The University Assembly believes that the two-part process is very sensible," says Wegscheider. "In particular, the fact that conflict management has been introduced at the interface between the phases. The person charged with this task makes another attempt to reach an early agreement."

Help is available wherever you look for it

So how does Markus T. find out which is the best service to contact in his situation? In other words, will it affect the process if he contacts the external ombudsperson rather than the internal one or the Respect specialist unit? "Not at all," stresses Hildbrand. "You can choose to contact any of the services with your initial concerns and you can be confident that the matter will be taken extremely seriously by the service in question."

> **"The fact that ETH is now offering a wide range of low-threshold contact services is a positive sign and one of the most important aspects of these changes."**
>
> **Werner Wegscheider, President of the University Assembly**

Depending on the skills required for a particular case, you may be referred to another service if necessary. "The important thing is to contact one of the services at an early stage and get some advice. The sooner you do that, the easier it is to identify and de-escalate a conflict situation," says the HR expert.

University Assembly President Wegscheider agrees: "The fact that ETH is now offering a wide range of low-threshold contact services is a positive sign and one of the most important aspects of these changes." In the discussions about the regulations, the University Assembly was also particularly keen

Contact and advice services

ETH members who wish to receive professional and confidential advice and support from internal and newly created external bodies should contact:

Ombudspersons at ETH Zurich

Dr Peter M. Frischknecht
Dr. phil. II *(former departmental coordinator)*

Dr Margrit Leuthold
Dr. phil. II / executive MBA *(not active in 2020)*

Prof. em. Gerhard Tröster
Dipl.-Ing. electrical engineering *(professor emeritus of electronics)*

Kathrin Teuscher
Lic. iur. attorney at law / Mediator SAV *(external ombudsperson)*

ETH Advisory and Conciliation Office Respect: Bullying, harassment and discrimination

Dr Ulrich Schärer
Lic. phil. psychology / Dipl. management ETH NDS

Dr Monika Keller
Dr. sc. nat. ETH / Consulting in practice CAS

External advice centre Respect: Bullying, harassment and discrimination

Claudia Stam
Lic. phil. psychology

Florian Schneider
Lic. iur. attorney at law

Conflict Management office

Damaris Vassella
Lic. iur. / Mediator CAS (IRP-HSG)

Further information and contact details for these and other services can be found at:
www.respekt.ethz.ch/en/ → Contact and advice services

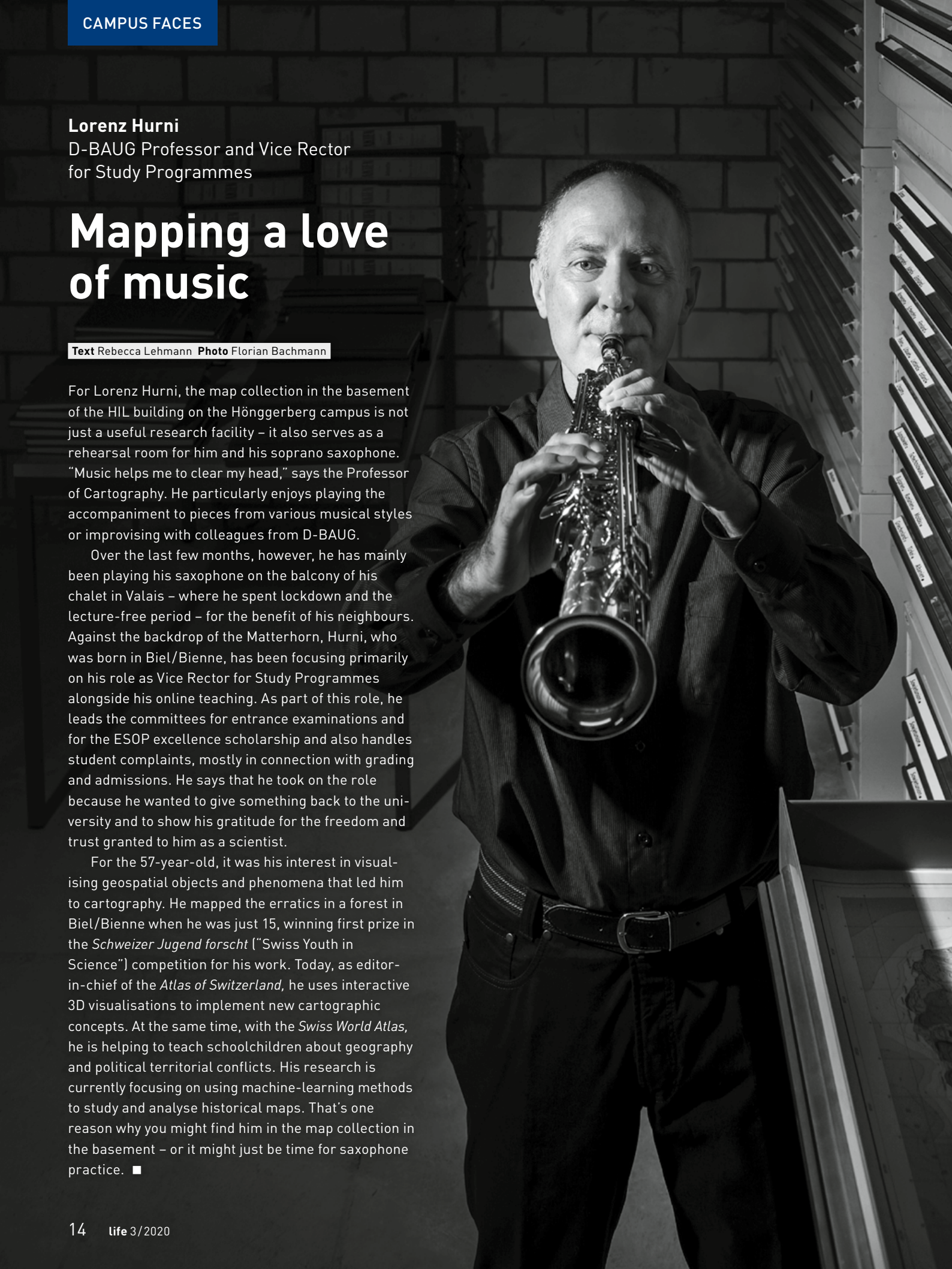
Photos: Giulia Marthaler; Jonas Weibel; Photo Müller; Ulrich Schärer; Philippe Wiget; Piktors

to ensure that people who report problems receive appropriate protection in a timely manner. "This will ensure that those seeking advice will actually use the services," says Wegscheider.

As is the case for Markus T. After a number of consultation sessions, he agrees to discuss the situation with the whole research group. The discussions are challenging for the whole team, but ultimately they are able to clear up their misunderstandings and the atmosphere in the team improves significantly.

Of course, having regulations does not guarantee a solution. "But people like Markus T. and other parties involved in a conflict situation now know that there are concrete services and processes that can be used to de-escalate the problem," says Vonesch, Head of HR. "I think just knowing that can stop you from reaching the end of your tether." ■

*** Name and situation are fictional.**



Lorenz Hurni
D-BAUG Professor and Vice Rector for Study Programmes

Mapping a love of music

Text Rebecca Lehmann **Photo** Florian Bachmann

For Lorenz Hurni, the map collection in the basement of the HIL building on the Hönggerberg campus is not just a useful research facility – it also serves as a rehearsal room for him and his soprano saxophone. "Music helps me to clear my head," says the Professor of Cartography. He particularly enjoys playing the accompaniment to pieces from various musical styles or improvising with colleagues from D-BAUG.

Over the last few months, however, he has mainly been playing his saxophone on the balcony of his chalet in Valais – where he spent lockdown and the lecture-free period – for the benefit of his neighbours. Against the backdrop of the Matterhorn, Hurni, who was born in Biel/Bienne, has been focusing primarily on his role as Vice Rector for Study Programmes alongside his online teaching. As part of this role, he leads the committees for entrance examinations and for the ESOP excellence scholarship and also handles student complaints, mostly in connection with grading and admissions. He says that he took on the role because he wanted to give something back to the university and to show his gratitude for the freedom and trust granted to him as a scientist.

For the 57-year-old, it was his interest in visualising geospatial objects and phenomena that led him to cartography. He mapped the erratics in a forest in Biel/Bienne when he was just 15, winning first prize in the *Schweizer Jugend forscht* ("Swiss Youth in Science") competition for his work. Today, as editor-in-chief of the *Atlas of Switzerland,* he uses interactive 3D visualisations to implement new cartographic concepts. At the same time, with the *Swiss World Atlas,* he is helping to teach schoolchildren about geography and political territorial conflicts. His research is currently focusing on using machine-learning methods to study and analyse historical maps. That's one reason why you might find him in the map collection in the basement – or it might just be time for saxophone practice. ■

Roland Sigrist
Cybathlon Director

Illustration: Kornel Stadler

A new Cybathlon for a new era

It was a difficult situation. We wanted to respond in the right way, but there was hardly anyone who could help. Two months before the Cybathlon, which was scheduled for 2 and 3 May 2020, it was clear that COVID-19 was going to make it impossible for us to organise an international event with and for people with disabilities. Even before the Swiss government announced its ban on events, we had already postponed the Cybathlon to the autumn. The participating teams from around the world were relieved, and so were we. The new date meant that we all had something to aim for again.

We took a moment to catch our breath, but then we realised that we had to come up with a plan. Could we have international teams, pilots and journalists travelling to Zurich for a major event in September? No. Could we postpone the event in the stadium to 2021? Not an option either. The teams can't keep financing themselves indefinitely – student teams in particular are often project-based. Cybathlon would grind to a halt. After the first competition in 2016, which came out of nowhere and was such a resounding success, the community has spent almost four years preparing for the big event – the second Cybathlon.

In these times of uncertainty, I came across a quote often attributed to Albert Einstein: "A crisis is the greatest blessing for people and nations, because it always brings progress. Creativity comes from anguish as the day comes from the dark night."

With this in mind, we decided to see this as a unique opportunity to come up with a new Cybathlon format. The first thing was to convince everyone involved to embrace our new format, particularly the international teams who took part in 2016. They had been dreaming of the stadium, of the fans cheering them on and the cameras capturing spectacular images from every angle for the whole world to see. Some of the teams were very sceptical to begin with. Later on, they wrote to say how inspiring it was that we were carrying them along and that we weren't giving up on this important project, despite the difficult situation. These words really motivated us and kept us going.

On 13 and 14 November, we will be telling stories – those of the pilots and those of the researchers. The teams will be competing across the globe, completing the courses at their home bases and providing visuals of the races. And yet we will all be united by the same goal: creating a world without barriers. The Cybathlon 2020 Global Edition is an important step in the right direction. I can't wait! ■

Roland Sigrist

About the author

Roland Sigrist was competition director for the first Cybathlon in 2016 and has been the project's executive director since 2017
www.cybathlon.ethz.ch/en/ →

Making better use of interdisciplinary collaboration

Interdisciplinary thinking often receives too little attention during Bachelor's studies. We attend lectures in physics, chemistry or biology – without giving any thought to the things they have in common, despite the fact that many concepts are universal. This might be for a number of reasons: perhaps it is our unconscious laziness and unwillingness to do the extra thinking that is required, or perhaps we lack the understanding to apply these often weighty concepts in a different context.

Things got better during my Master's studies – working on my own research project for the first time, applying what I'd learned for the first time. And understanding for the first time how important the principles of chemistry are in the field of biology. Everything I'd been taught over the previous several years finally made sense, and collaborating with researchers from other fields presented me with new perspectives and opportunities.

Now that I am working on my doctoral project, interdisciplinary collaboration is more important than ever. Taking inspiration from experts in the field of learning research, having the opportunity to try out new approaches such as storytelling in the lecture hall – and validating theoretical ideas about why these approaches might lead to more successful learning from a neuroscientific perspective – has taken me in directions that I never could have foreseen.

The spectrum of knowledge that you can access through collaboration at ETH is unbelievably diverse. We should draw on this knowledge to develop new approaches to teaching in order to promote interdisciplinary thinking from the start of every student's degree.

Samuel Tobler, doctoral student at the Professorship for Learning Sciences and Higher Education
www.imsb.ethz.ch →

Sustainable protection

Are you looking for a face mask that not only provides protection, but also promotes sustainability and looks good too? Then the washable community mask with a new ETH design is the perfect choice. The protective effect complies with the recommendations of the Swiss National COVID-19 Science Task Force, while the cotton-like material and high air permeability make it comfortable to wear. The fabric, which is woven in Switzerland, is made of 60 percent recycled fibres. Furthermore, the masks are sewn by a network of social facilities based in Switzerland. They are available online and in the Hönggerberg, Polyterrasse and Sonneggstrasse ETH Stores. (Photo: ETH Zurich/Josef Kuster)

www.eth-store.ch/en/ →