

Minutes of the 2020 SIRA Annual Conference

November 13, 2020 14:15 - 15:20

Online on Zoom

1. Welcome and setup

Attendees:

Torsten Braun (UniBe)
Philippe Cudré-Mauroux (UniFr)
Eric Dubuis (BFH) – Board member
Giovanna Di Marzo Serugendo (UniGe)
Thibault Estier – Substitute for Stéphanie Missonier (UNIL)
Martin Glinz – President and substitute for Renato Pajarola (UZH)
Matthias Grossglauser (EPFL) – Board candidate
Siegfried Handschuh (UniSG) – Board member
Matthias Hauswirth (USI) – Board member
Peter Kropf (UniNE)
James Larus (EPFL) – Board member
Christine Legner (UNIL) – Candidate for president and board
Ulrich Reimer (FHO)
Christian Tschudin (UniBas) – Candidate for president and board

Minute keeper: Matthias Hauswirth	vote: approved
Approval of 2019 SIRA Conference Minutes	vote: 11 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain
Approval of agenda for this meeting	vote: 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain

2. Report on activities, communication

The president reports.

SIRA Data Science Event held September 9 in Zürich. Thanks to Siegfried Handschuh (UniSG), Juliano Sales, and Erik Graf (BFH) for organizing this successful event.

SIRA web site (wordpress) is up but still very static, with room for improvement. *Volunteers are welcome.*

SIRA is now a member of Informatics Europe. Martin Glinz attended IE's annual ECSS Conference in October 2020 (planned for Sofia, Bulgaria, actually held virtually). There was also a half-day National Informatics Associations Workshop on *Interdisciplinarity and Informatics* where Martin Glinz chaired a session.

No progress on student statistics. *Volunteers are welcome*, some funding would be available for them.

Martin Glinz has been re-elected as SI board member and will represent SIRA on the SI board.

The SIRA offer to support mediation of conflict within the SI board was not made use of, but there is reason for hope that the SI board will find back to a constructive and collaborative working style.

3. SIRA fees for 2021

The SIRA board proposes SIRA membership fees for 2021 of CHF 120.- per regular member (36.- to SIRA, 50.- to SI, 14.- to joint SI-SIRA R&E fund, 20.- flat fee for SIG memberships). CHF 0.- per emeritus.

Approval of the SIRA fees: **vote:** 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain

4. Approvals

4.1 Financial Report 2019

Siegfried Handschuh (SIRA treasurer) presents the financial report of 2019.

SIRA Financial Report 2019

	Budget 2019	Actual 2019
Income		
Gross SIRA membership fees		38'280.00
SI-Membership fees		-23'256.00
SI-SIG Membership fees		-3'950.00
Net membership income	12'000	11'074.00
Expenses		
Parl Digi Membership	6'000	6'000.00
SIRA Events	1'000	0.00
Other Measures (at discretion of the board)	6'000	1'146.67
Loan to 3L Informatik AG	15'000	0.00
Miscellaneous (at discretion of the board)	1'000	137.00
Total expenses	29'000	7'283.67
Balance	-17'000	3'790.33
Assets per 31.12.2018	219 k CHF	219'398.78
Assets per 31.12.2019: Bank	202 k CHF	223'189.11
Assets per 31.12.2019: Loan to 3L	15 k CHF	0.00

Approval of financial report: **vote:** 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain

4.2 Financial outcome estimate for 2020

Presentation of the financial outcome estimate for 2020 (just for information, no vote):

SIRA Financial Outcome Estimate 2020

	Budget 2020	Estimate 2020
Income		
Gross SIRA membership fees		38'000
SI-Membership fees		-23'000
SI-SIG Membership fees		-4'000
Net membership income	11'000	11'000
Expenses		
Parl Digi Membership	6'000	6'000
SIRA Events	1'000	557
Other Measures (at discretion of the board)	6'000	0
Miscellaneous (at discretion of the board)	1'000	100
Total expenses	14'000	6'657
Balance	-3'000	4'343
Assets per 31.12.2019	223 k CHF	223'189.11
Assets per 31.12.2020	220 k CHF	227 k CHF

4.3 Discharge of the board

Discharge of the SIRA board (board members to abstain).

vote: 8 yes, 5 abstain, 0 no

4.4 Budget 2021

Siegfried Handschuh (SIRA treasurer) presents the SIRA budget for 2021

SIRA Budget 2021

	Budget 2021	Budget 2020	Estimate 2020	Actual 2019
Income				
Gross SIRA membership fees	38'000		38'000	38'280.00
SI-Membership fees	-23'000		-23'000	-23'256.00
SI-SIG Membership fees	-4'000		-4'000	-3'950.00
Net membership income	11'000	11'000	11'000	11'074.00
Expenses				
Parl Digi Membership	6'000	6'000	6'000	6'000.00
SIRA Events	1'000	1'000	557	0.00
Other Measures (at discretion of the board)	3'500	6'000	0	1'146.67
Miscellaneous (at discretion of the board)	500	1'000	100	137.00
Total expenses	11'000	14'000	6'657	7'283.67
Balance	0	-3'000	4'343	3'790.33
Assets per 31.12.2019				223'189.11
Estimated assets per 31.12.2020		227 k CHF	227 k CHF	
Estimated assets per 31.12.2021	227 k CHF			

Approval of the 2021 budget: **vote:** 13 yes, 0 abstain, 0 no

5. Elections

5.1 Election of the president

President Martin Glinz steps down after serving his two terms. The two candidates for SIRA President, Christine Legner (UniL) and Christian Tschudin (UniBas), give brief statements. There are no other candidates.

Election:

vote: 5 Legner, 8 Tschudin

Elected is: Christian Tschudin.

5.2 Election of the board

Martin Glinz asks Christian Tschudin to lead the meeting for this agenda item as Martin is a candidate for the board.

Board member James Larus, who has been a Board Member since 2013, is stepping down. He is thanked for his service. Candidates for another two-year term are:

Eric Dubuis (BFH)*

Martin Glinz (UZH)*

Matthias Grossglauser (EPFL)

Siegfried Handschuh (UniSG)*

Matthias Hauswirth (USI)*

Christine Legner (UniL)

*) runs for re-election

A total of six candidates for a maximum of 5 seats to be filled.

Election (each voting member can pick up to 5 candidates; it is allowed for a candidate to vote for themselves):

vote:

8 Dubuis

8 Glinz

8 Grossglauser

11 Handschuh

9 Hauswirth

12 Legner

Elected are Handschuh, Hauswirth, and Legner.

Eric Dubuis offers to step down, given that he will retire next summer.

Matthias Grossglauser and Martin Glinz are elected.

6. Date for 2021 conference

Poll for preferences for dates and times for the 2021 SIRA conference.

Week:	Week 45: 8	Week 46: 8			
Weekday:	Mon: 1	Tue: 1	Wed: 2	Thu: 5	Fri: 12
Time:	10-12: 2	12-14: 3	14-16: 12		

Preferences are for either week 45/46 (8 votes), clear preference for Friday as a weekday and for 14-16 as a time slot.

Thus, the tentative dates to be considered by the board are **Nov 12 or 19, 2021 14:15-16:15**.

7. Miscellaneous

The conference thanks Eric Dubuis for his service on the board.