

## SystemsX.ch milestones

A kick-off meeting for the project to create a Life Science Research Institute convenes in Basel on 20 December, 2002. The new institute's aim is to combine the strengths of the ETH (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology) and the University of Basel.

<http://pages.unibas.ch/rr-bs/medmit/ed/2002/12/ed-20021220-001.html>

(Link to Basel-City's press release from 20 December, 2002).

In February 2003, the ETH announces that it's ready to found a new bioengineering department in the Basel area.

[http://archiv.ethlife.ethz.ch/articles/ETH\\_Basel.html](http://archiv.ethlife.ethz.ch/articles/ETH_Basel.html)

(Link to the ETHLife article of 17 February, 2003).

Scientists at the ETH Zurich and the two universities of Basel and Zurich draft the "Systems Biology Switzerland" concept which is approved by an international team of experts in October 2003.

[http://fm-eth.ethz.ch/eth/media/FMPro?-db=pressemitteilungen.fp5&-lay=html&-format=pr\\_detail\\_de.html&pr\\_id=2003-45&-find](http://fm-eth.ethz.ch/eth/media/FMPro?-db=pressemitteilungen.fp5&-lay=html&-format=pr_detail_de.html&pr_id=2003-45&-find)

(Link to the ETH Zurich's press release from 5 October, 2003).

In November 2003, the governments of Basel-Country and Basel-City apply for a total of 20 million francs in start-up funding to set up an ETH Institute for Systems Biology in Basel.

<http://pages.unibas.ch/rr-bs/medmit/rrbs/2003/11/rrbs-20031111-006.html>

(Link to Basel-City's press release from 11 November, 2003).

On 26 March, 2004, the ETH council votes for the SystemsX project, a Swiss network for Systems Biology. The research centre for Systems Biology, located in Basel, is to be a part of this network.

[http://www.newsarchiv.ethz.ch/news/ethupdate/2004/040326\\_2/](http://www.newsarchiv.ethz.ch/news/ethupdate/2004/040326_2/)

(Link to the ETH Zurich's press release from 26 March, 2004).

In June 2004, the Conference of Swiss Universities decides to support SystemsX from 2005 to 2007 by providing 10 million francs. As a result, start-up financing of the research initiative is guaranteed.

[http://www.cus.ch/wDeutsch/downloads/Beilage\\_3\\_D\\_P250604.pdf](http://www.cus.ch/wDeutsch/downloads/Beilage_3_D_P250604.pdf)

(Link to the Conference of Swiss Universities' press release from 25 June, 2004).

Following the Conference of Swiss Universities' ruling, the ETH Zurich also gives the go-ahead. In addition to the research centre for Biosystems in Basel, SystemsX now also consists of a network for Biosystems between the ETH and University of Zurich and a Swiss network for Systems Biology.

<http://archiv.ethlife.ethz.ch/articles/news/SUKSystemsX04.html>

(Link to the ETHLife article of 28 June, 2004).

In November 2004, the scientific concept for the new centre for Biosystems in Basel is ready and the first professorships are advertised. The centre is opened in autumn 2005.

[http://fm-eth.ethz.ch/eth/media/FMPro?-db=pressemitteilungen.fp5&-lay=html&-format=pr\\_detail\\_de.html&pr\\_id=2004-68&-find](http://fm-eth.ethz.ch/eth/media/FMPro?-db=pressemitteilungen.fp5&-lay=html&-format=pr_detail_de.html&pr_id=2004-68&-find)

(Link to the ETH Zurich's press release from 15 November, 2004).

In February 2006, SystemsX opens up to new partners: the initiative is now called SystemsX.ch and has been re-organised as a special partnership ("einfache Gesellschaft" under Swiss law), so that other universities and institutions from Switzerland and abroad can participate.

<http://archiv.ethlife.ethz.ch/articles/news/systxoeff.html>

(Link to the ETHLife article of 15 February, 2006).

In 2006 the ETH Lausanne and the Universities of Berne and Geneva join.

In January 2007, in its "Funding education, research and innovation" communiqué, the Federal Council of Switzerland applies to parliament for funding SystemsX.ch and the centre for Biosystems in Basel from 2008 to 2011 totalling 100 million francs each. The precondition for supporting SystemsX.ch is that the applications must be evaluated by the SNSF.

<http://www.admin.ch/ch/d/ff/2007/1223.pdf>

(Link to the communiqué on Funding education, research and innovation 2008 – 2011).

Both, the Swiss Council of States, in the summer session, and the National Council, in the autumn session of 2007, agree to provide 100 million francs' worth of funding for the SystemsX.ch initiative *as well as* the centre for Biosystems.

2 November 2007