

## 18th call for the SNSF Professorships: 42 awards for 2017

The 18th call for the SNSF Professorships attracted 271 applications from scientists in spring 2016.

August 2016 saw the completion of the first part of the procedure, after which 77 candidates were invited to submit a detailed application. 74 persons presented their project in January 2017 to the evaluation committees of the National Research Council. For the second stage of the evaluation, the Council additionally called upon the assistance of external experts.

The Swiss National Science Foundation has now awarded 42 SNSF Professorships to promising young researchers who have proved to be of exceptional scientific ability. The final selection also placed particular emphasis upon the candidates' suitability and commitment to teaching.

SNSF professorships places very high demands on the candidates. Unfortunately, due to the limited number of awards that can be granted by the SNSF, even highly qualified candidates could not always be taken into consideration.

Since 2009, the Research Council applies a separate set of conditions to evaluate research proposals in clinically oriented areas. In 2017, 3 of the 12 grants in biology and medicine were awarded to clinical researchers.

The share of women who received an SNSF professorship in 2017 is 38% (2016: 39%). After 18 calls for proposals 2000-2017, the targeted overall share of women grantees (30% across all cohorts) has now been achieved (31%). The SNSF will continue its efforts to increase the proportion of female SNSF professorship grantees in the next years.

The new SNSF professors will be working in 8 Swiss Universities and both Federal Institutes of Technology. They will be active in research, teaching and clinical work and will enjoy the status of an assistant professor or equivalent. The SNSF thereby provides them with a strong foundation for their future careers.

### Distribution by Disciplines

Discipline	Number of grants 2017	Cumulated grants 2000-2017	Percentage 2017	Cumulated percentage
Humanities	9	125	35.7%	32%
Social Sciences	6	96		
Mathematics and Natural Sciences	14	190	35.7%	34%
Engineering Sciences	1	46		
Biology	9	176	28.6%	34%
Medicine	3	58		
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>691*</b>	100%	100%

\* This total refers to the number of grants, not to the number of active SNSF professors (the latter varies based on how many persons are appointed to a chair position).

### Distribution by Universities and Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology

University / ETH	Number of grants 2017	Number of grants 2000-2017
University of Basel	7	90
University of Berne	5	90
University of Fribourg	3	41
University of Geneva	4	90
The Graduate Institute of Geneva	0	5
University of Lausanne	3	60
University of Luzern	1	10
University of Neuchâtel	1	22
University of St. Gall	0	6
University of Lugano (USI)	0	2
University of Zurich	13	129
ETH Lausanne	1	51
ETH Zurich	4	90
Zurich University of the Arts	0	1
Schola Cantorum Basiliensis	0	1
Bern University of the Arts	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>691*</b>