Minutes of the VMUSYS 9th General Assembly 27.10.2016 12:00-13:00 CHN P12
(Notes: Stan Schymanski)

1. Welcome, approval of the agenda
Andreas Papritz opens meeting and welcomes everyone. Agenda unanimously is approved as it is.

2. Approval of the minutes from the 8th general assembly on 3 March 2016
Minutes unanimously approved with 2 abstentions.

   1. Andreas presents finances on behalf of treasurer Susan Tandy, who could not attend.
   2. Key points:
      ◦ Roughly CHF 4000/year income from AVETH.
      ◦ This year, we got CHF 6800 in addition from D-USYS as a subsidy to courses organised by VMUSYS.
      ◦ We only had one run of leadership course instead of two, so we have a rough balance of CHF 9000 now, which can be used to subsidise courses next year.
   3. Auditors found no problems with finances and propose granting discharge to treasurer.
   4. Treasurer unanimously discharged with 1 abstention.

4. Election of delegates to departmental conference, resources and teaching commissions
Following candidates elected unanimously (acronyms in brackets indicate their institutes):
   Departementskonferenz (DK):
   Barbara Drews (IAS)
   Susanne Burri (IAS)
   Anina Gilgen (IAC)
   Jerylee Wilkes-Allemann (IED)
   Gesa Eirund (IAC)
   Clemens Schwingshackl (IAC)
   Cordula Friedli (Deputy, IAS)

   Ressourcenkommission (RK):
   Clemens Schwingshackl (IAC)
   Christian Pohl (Deputy, IED)

   Unterrichtskommission Agrarwissenschaften (UK-A)
   Lukas Kronenberg (IAS)
   Edna Hillmann (IAS)
   Sabine Mueller (IAS)
   Andreas Hund (Deputy, IAS)

   Unterrichtskommission Umwelt Naturwissenschaften (UK-U)
   Samuel Bickel (IBP)
   Chris Kettle (ITES)
   Ursina Messmer (IBZ)
   Christian Pohl (IED)
   Meike Vogt (IBP)
   Anina Gilgen (IAC)
   Johan Lilliestam (Deputy, IED)
5. Election of VMUSYS board (president, vice-president, treasurer, auditors)
Following board members and auditors were elected unanimously with 1 abstention:
- Chair: Clemens Schwingshackl (IAC)
- Deputy-chair: Amewu Mensah (IAC)
- Treasurer: Susan Tandy (ITES)
- Auditors: Ueli Merz (IBZ), Mathias Hauser (IAC)

Following persons agreed to support the board:
- Advisory support: Susanne Burri (IAS), Jerylee Wilkes-Allemann (IED, to be confirmed), Andreas Papritz (IBP/ITES)
- Web master: Vincent Humphrey (IAC)

6. Information about D-USYS study on career perspectives and working conditions of scientific staff at D-USYS
Dagmar Schroeter will present results at next meeting, as she could not attend. Andreas describes the survey.

7. Update from commission delegates
- UK-U (Mathias Hauser reports): Discussion on CO$_2$ emissions and financial subsidies related to courses abroad; Every student will get a subsidy of up to 500 CHF only once during the Master studies. Courses eligible for subsidies have to be selected by UK-U prior to application with RK.
- RK, DK (Andreas): Students and postdocs on scholarships earning less than those on normal contracts have to get a top-up by professor to reach salary level equivalent to minimum of normal contracts. 50% of this top-up will be supplied by D-USYS before 2018, after that, professors will have to pay full top-up.

8. Update on courses organized in 2016 by VMUSYS for D-USYS members
- Leadership Competences (~20 attendants); highly recommended course.
- Teaching portfolio (10 attendants); highly recommended for higher Mittelbau, but instructor retired, need to find new one. LET offers similar course but in German.

9. Varia
- AVETH wants to organise welcome package for new staff, we need VMUSYS members to meet new staff within institutes and introduce ourselves and AVETH.
- AVETH organises follow-up survey on salaries and working conditions of PhD students: https://evaluation-app1.let.ethz.ch/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=l4LL7m74
- wanted: VMUSYS representative for Communication working group of D-USYS (mail to: sophie.graf@usys.ethz.ch)
- IED is planning a Doktoratsverordnung, similar to IAC. IBP is also planning to formulate some rules for Doctorate studies. Will need to follow up on it.
- IAC has initiated discussion on including PhDs and upper Mittelbau in Institutsleitung.