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## MVUB information in the fall semester 2023

The Intermediate Staff Association (MVUB) represents the interests of all members of the intermediate Staff.

As a member of the MVUB, you are entitled to a free initial consultation on employment issues and conflicts in the work context. You can register for a free membership [here](#).

In addition, we would like to share the following important information with you:

- New division of VAA and VDD in having a say.
- MVUB's new mentoring grant makes it easier to get involved
- MVUB's stance on the 2025-28 BFI message.
- Meeting with new ombudsman Hansjörg Znoj
- Technical employment level and IV (disability insurance)
- Search for co-presidency and board members
- Vacant MVUB Commission Seats
- MVUB events

### Having a say: new division VAA/VDD, MVUB care allowance

To enable the members of the Intermediate Staff to have an even better say, two adjustments have been made to the MVUB.

On the one hand, the MVUB has changed its statutes to simplify the distinction between VAA and VDD. The VAA section now includes members without a dissertation, while the VDD section includes members with a dissertation.

The BKD is considering a similar change in the next adaptation of the University Ordinance regarding co-determination, so that this distinction could also be applied by the faculties for commission seats.

In addition, the MVUB has established a [Caregiver Grant](#). Members with care responsibilities who are committed to the Intermediate Staff, e.g., as delegates in a commission, can submit an application to have the care costs for this time covered. A maximum of CHF 500 per application, person and year will be reimbursed. The MVUB has a total of CHF 2,000 at its disposal for this purpose.

You can have a say as a delegate in a university commission for the MVUB. Vacancies can be found on [the list of commission representatives](#). If you are interested, please contact [Sandra Zumbunn](#) directly.

## Consultation on the ERI Message 2025 - 28

The MVUB participated in the consultation process and submitted a statement. The focus is on the abolition of Doc.CH. The MVUB emphasizes that the SNSF should also adequately support the humanities in addition to the natural sciences and that this is no longer the case with the abolition of Doc.CH. It also points out that the paragraph "Promotion of young scientists" does not explicitly mention the Intermediate Staff organizations. However, a closer cooperation with them is desirable.

## Ombudsman's Office

The MVUB met the new ombudsman Hansjörg Znoj as part of the introductory program for new ombudsmen, which was implemented on the initiative of the MVUB, and had a lively exchange. Hansjörg Znoj emphasized that all consultations with him are confidential, and supervisors are not contacted by him per se. Only at the request of those seeking advice and with their consent does the ombudsman seek this discussion. The MVUB will continue to meet regularly with the ombudsmen.

## Technical employment level and IV

Most doctoral students are employed with a technical employment level of 75%. In most cases, however, a full-time workload is expected. The MVUB has inquired with the IV how a possible pension calculation would look in this situation. The IV has reported back that it has not yet had such a case, but that it assumes that the mixed method for calculating the degree of disability would apply here. This means that the difference between the degree of employment and the full-time workload would be counted as household work for the calculation of a pension. The Bernische Pensionskasse bases its assessment in each case on the assessment by the IV. The MVUB is always available to answer any questions its members may have.

## Search for new co-presidency and new board members

Due to the temporary appointments of mid-level faculty, there are always vacant seats on the MVUB Board of Directors. What does the board do? How much time do I have to invest? You can find information about the tasks and efforts of a board member [here \(in German\)](#). The tasks of the Co-Presidency are listed [here \(in German\)](#). If you are interested in joining the board, you can contact [Sandra Zumbrunn](#) directly.

## Vacant MVUB Commission Seats

There is currently a vacancy for the regular VAA seat on the Equal Opportunity Commission. If you are interested in equal opportunity issues and would like to fill the seat, please contact [Sandra Zumbrunn](#). There are also vacant seats on the "Equal Opportunity and Excellence Working" Group. They have 2-3 meetings a year, which are remunerated with a small meeting fee.

There is also a vacant seat on [actionuni](#), the umbrella organization for intermediate staff associations. It is the only English-speaking committee, so it is well suited for non-German speakers who want to get involved.

There are also several alternate seats available. The [list on the website](#) is up to date.

### MVUB-Events

The following events are planned:

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| Tuesday, 14. November 2023, 12.30 p.m., online | Lunchtalk with Andrea Hacker, Universitätsbibliothek Bern: When a good thing goes bad: questionable publishing practices of (big) publishers<br><a href="#">Universität: Lunchtalk: When a good thing goes bad: questionable publishing practices of (big) publishers (unibe.ch)</a> |
| Tuesday, Tuesday, 21. November, 17.15 p.m.     | Input presentation by Dr. Anita Haldemann, Head of Art & Science, Deputy to the Director, Kunstmuseum Basel: Setting Out into the Art World (in German)<br><a href="#">Universität: Aufbruch in die Kunstwelt (unibe.ch)</a>   |
| Tuesday, 28. November, from 16:00 p.m.         | Photo shoot for professional job application pictures<br>Members will have the opportunity to be photographed by a professional.<br>More info coming soon on the MVUB website.   |
| Regular Events                                 | Doc- and Postdoc Event: Welcome of new PhD students and postdocs, next event in FS 2024<br>«Autour d'un verre»: Networking event for francophone employees, next event in FS 2024  |
| 2024   | Occasion of the 30th anniversary of MVUB   |

It is important for the MVUB to maintain contact with its members and all interested parties. We look forward to meeting you in person at one of our events. Suggestions for topics and guests at the board meetings are always welcome. You can contact [Sandra Zumbrunn](#) directly.

Kind Regards



Daniela Feller

Co-President MVUB



Emmanuel Büttler

Co-President MVUB