

General Assembly of 24.10.2017

Present members: Adria, Alex, Elliott, Charles, Robbie, Roberto, Suzanne, Yuliy, Hedwig, Michalis, Mark, Dane, Samuel, Patrick, and Enrico. Future member: Daniela

1. Welcome

1.1 Flashlight exercise/Frame setting

All present members are invited to share their favourite Catalyst creation, how they feel, and what their hope for the future is.

- Favourite creations mentioned are CatCave9, the Exposure Hackathon, Blue Butterfly, the Escape room, the Basel Science Slam, making people discover improv, the Catalyst itself, welcoming people at drop-in.
- Feeling mentioned acceptance, stress, back problems, temperature problems, curiosity, and feeling good.
- Hopes mentioned seeing the Catalyst members create a diversity of projects, science communication training, interuniversity projects, a future play, seeing the Geneva team grow, and having lots of fun.

2. The Past

2.1 Activity Report

- Thank you to the board, fully diversified, many responsibilities!
- The Geneva Catalyst started 6 months ago, now in both CERN and CMU University. Recently there were only 3-4 people, sometimes even 2, so they need extra energy. But they are having a great start!
- Exposure: The first edition happened in December and was a great success. It brought huge visibility to the Catalyst and today students can earn credits through this event in both UNIL and EPFL.
- Catcave9: Thursday evenings are a huge success. The Oblò is booked until June. The MC have creative processes. There is now a tax of CHF 50.- per session to the city and a limited number of people can come.
- Parasites Escape Room: was built from scratch in relation to a museum exhibit, funded by Museum of Zoology and UNIL (Agora Grant).
- Inter-group workshop (French and English workshop to share improv skills)
- Films are being made
- Podcast in two ways (Sciencecast and (Im)poster session)
- Storytelling events
- Guerilla outdoor improv show – in the park
- Barcelona Improv festival
- Catalyst was well represented at We Scientists Shape Science and ScienceComm 17
- Also invited to other people events (Lac Lemman-a-palooza, Basel Science Slam, Nuit des Musées, Famelab, Kulturfolger Zurich Improv show)
- Social events such as the Noel-a-lyst and the CERN visit, and paid training workshops by Sam

2.2 Financial Report

- Positive conclusion: 5136.-! But after certain debts from 16-17 are paid, more like 2500.-.
- Charity organisations that receive money should give receipts so keep receipts and if the Catalyst is the charity, then give a receipt.

2.3 Voting

- **The Finances are accepted unanimously.**

3. The Future

Big questions

1. Modes of cohesion beyond drop-in:

- Where do we meet?
- How do people meet that do not want to do any improv?
- Weekly post improv dinner?

2. Paid classes workshops?

3. Catalyst as standalone EPFL UNIL association (non PET), vs a part of PET?

- Issue that Geneva and Zurich are not in EPFL/UNIL.
- Genopode room access does not depend on PET.
- PET are helpful, spent a lot of time helping the Catalyst with official matters especially lately.

4. Expansion Zurich Basel Geneva

- Geneva is hard, Sam is not always available for regular training and Christian is writing his thesis. They are thinking about doing the workshops once per month.

3.1 Amendments of the Statutes

- Several changes were made such as compensation for association creative work and formalisation of internal projects such as retreats.
- Should board positions be given to people who handle projects?
- What is the opportunities lead position? When an opportunity comes, the leader puts it out and makes sure there is a lead, makes sure the project is going forward.
- Michalis suggests to change drop-in lead to training lead. This lead is now responsible for drop-ins and also others forms of trainings/classes. He is not necessarily doing the training, but organising and having an overview of what we make available. Accepted.
- Elliott suggests there should be a social activity organisation leader, for now, this has not been implemented.

3.2 Voting

- **The statutes are accepted unanimously.**

3.3 To dos

- Slack: check regularly
- Create a Catalyst for Dummies (how to become member, how to propose a project, etc.)
- The new website is advancing.

3.4 The future board?

3.5 Voting

Strategic advisor: Adria – unanimous 14

President: Alex – unanimous 14

Treasurer: Yuliy – 13 positive, 1 abstention

Opportunities: Hedwig – 9 positive, 2 for alternate candidate Michalis, 3 blank

Communications: Suzanne – unanimous 14

Training lead: Patrick – unanimous 14

Auditor: Roberto – unanimous 14

3.6 Projects to come

- Winter retreat: opportunities for interactions. Adria suggests to take this opportunity to discuss what we want for the Catalyst
- CatCave9: The Oblò is booked until June. Events must now be announced officially to the Chambre du commerce.
- Theatre production in 2018
- Drop-in Sessions: Should it be 2 hours? Should leaders be paid?
- Geneva drop-in: Can leaders be non-scientists?
- Exposure Hackathon 2017: many relations created, great success
- Science communication seminar series
- Aarau 2018
- Lac Lemman-a-palooza
- Potential museum collaborations
- ECSITE science communication conference
- Animation Workshop
- Workshops and Paid Improv Classes
- CC9 show in Lausanne in a different bigger venue 1 or 2 times

3.7 Finances of the Future!

- **Membership fees staying same are accepted unanimously.**
- Budget for conference/workshop attendance
- Approval of the finances 17-18 – NOT discussed.
- Possibly increase CC9 ticket prices, maybe 10/12 or 10/15 or 8/12

4. Close