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Présidence de la Section de biologie 2018
Programme de Michel Milinkovitch et Françoise Stutz

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1. **Make excellence in Research as a top priority by** (among others)**:**
-Actively promoting and assisting PIs in their applications to the FNS council, ERC grants, NCCR calls, etc.;
-Supporting initiatives such as the establishment of post-doctoral school(s) oriented towards attracting top post-docs.

2. **Support intra-section but also inter-section fertilisations:**
-Promote multidisciplinarity, including in Masters and PhD programs;
-Promote 'bridge programs' for bachelors in Computer Science and Physics (as well as from HES-SO) to join our Master Programs;
-Organise training workshops among departments;
-Facilitate/promote access to platforms and equipments within the Section, *e.g.*, by establishing a relational database of available equipments in Science II and III;
-Facilitate the use of equipments from other sections (*e.g.*, AFM, Raman spectroscopy through the LTA);
-Discuss with the Departments the needs for new platforms (or modifications/removal of existing ones) and promote applications to SNF-R'EQUIP (very much under-used by our Section).

3. **Strengthen the image of the Section at the university** (at the levels of the Rectorate and the Faculty of Sciences), lobby for keeping positions;

4. **Attract the best PhD students and best postdocs by**:
-Making PhD students and post-docs proud to belong to our Section. Support the Postdocs association. Organise team-bonding events (*e.g.*, sport tournaments);
-Establish on the Section Website a page with the "PhD student / Post-doc of the month": every month, a PhD student or a post-doc will be put forward and her/his projet will be shortly explained and illustrated … explaining why the student and the project are great !

5. **Develop an active program of outreach and communication:** The EPFL communicates much better than we do and their image is much more positive (both in the media and in the minds of future students) despite that our research output is better.
-Make the research of all Departments, especially of young PIs, visible in the media
-Analyse the various means (YouTube channels, animations, Virtual Reality, Art Exhibits) for promotion outside the classical media.
-Make sure the Bioscope / BiOutils promote the research done in our Section.

6. **Promote teaching and education while integrating modern technologies**
-Introduce virtual reality / numerical simulations in our practical courses and at the Bioscope;
-Establish a permanent exhibit of animal and plant new model species in the 5th-floor TP room.

7. **Open our labs to PhD students / researchers interested into innovations/applications**
-Promote funding by CTI, Innosuisse, etc.
-Establish relationships with the many spin-off / companies in the Geneva area and allow students to perform their Master research projects in these companies (projects must be approved by a PI to insure that the project is of sufficient quality).

8. **Miscellaneous:**
-Integrate the function of the coordinator of the doctoral school with the function of 'conseiller aux études';
-Suggestions welcome.

This list is tentative and non-exhaustive. Points are not necessarily listed in order of priority. The philosophy is to attempt succeeding with as many items as possible while insuring that projects and decisions are discussed with the directors of all four Departments. Obviously, some key points, such as the promotion of women and of resource sharing (while respecting the independence of each of the four Departments), will remain of central importance across all these projects.