

GBS Schweiz Annual Report (2013)

Foundation and commencement of administrative work

The foundation of the club took place on 23 November 2013 in Basel, Switzerland.

Many activities were already carried out before the founding event.

Work on the **tax deductibility and the recognition as a non-profit organization** began at the end of 2013.

Publications

Creation and construction of the website www.gbs-schweiz.org with introductory texts about rationality, ethics & politics, and science & culture.

Online-Blog: Development and management of an editorial team under professional guidance, establishment of a team of authors (21 authors at the end of January 2014), regular publications of articles. In the year of 2013 approximately 100 articles were published, which corresponds roughly to one article every 3 to 4 days.

Several articles for **NZZ Campus** (media project of a well-known Swiss newspaper).

Several articles were also reposted on other websites (crossposting).

Advisory Board

Elaboration on the concept of the advisory board.

Diverse renowned scientists and cultural professionals have been asked and have agreed to publicly support the GBS Schweiz with statements or informational or position papers addressing current issues, thereby bringing science into the social dialogue.

Meetings and discussions with interested potential advisory board members.

Public events

Members of the GBS Schweiz have been working on public relations activities long before the foundation of the club, either individually or together with university groups.

Presentation **“Richtig spenden: Wohin mit dem Geld?”** (**“Effective donations: What to do with the money?”**)

- Micha Eichmann & Jonas Vollmer, Freidenker Wallis (Free thinkers Valais), 20 December 2013, approx. 20 attendees.

Full-page interview in the Walliser Boten (Swiss newspaper): “We cannot let our emotions fool us” on the topic of “Effective donations: What to do with the money?” with Micha Eichmann, 24 December 2013, circulation: **22 000 copies**.

Presentation **“No one really knows anything! – On the nature of beliefs”**

Micha Eichmann, frei denken uni basel (free thinkers of the University of Basel), 11 December 2013, 22 attendees.

Presentation **“The map is not the territory – How to have true beliefs”**

Amina Abdulkadir, frei denken uni basel, 4 December 2013, 23 attendees.

Presentation **“Tücken des unsystematischen Denkens – Logische Fehlschlüsse”** (**“Deceit of unsystematic thinking – logical fallacies”**)

Jeremias Brand, frei denken uni basel, 20 November 2013, 30 attendees.

TEDxTalk “**Our Daily Life and Death Decisions**”

Adriano Mannino, TEDxGundeldingen, 14 November 2013, approx. 100 attendees.

Presentation “**Von Glücksmaschinen und allerletzten Pandas – Was bringen Gedenkenexperimente?**” (“**Of happiness machines and very last pandas – What’s the point of thought experiments?**”)

Lukas Gloor, frei denken uni basel, 3 October 2013, 38 attendees.

Discussion “**Feedback-Runde mit Menschenaffen**” (“**Feedback session with great apes**”)

Accompanying event to the presentation of Prof. Volker Sommer: “Menschenaffen wie wir. Bekenntnisse eines Primatologen” (“Great apes like us. Confessions of a primatologist”), 22 May 2013, approx. 30 attendees.

Poetry Slam “**The Science and Art of Rationality**”

Amina Abdulkadir, 6th Science Slam Zurich, 16 May 2013, approx. 180 attendees.

Presentation “**How Paradoxical Is Ethics? Person-affecting principles, value and transitivity**”

Prof. Dr. Oscar Horta, frei denken uni basel, 15 May 2013, approx. 50 attendees.

Poetry Slam “**The Science and Art of Rationality**”

Amina Abdulkadir, Science Slam University of Bern, 13 May 2013, approx. 150 attendees.

Presentation “**Was läuft falsch in der Wissenschaft?**” (“**What is going wrong in science?**”)

Michael Moor & Micha Eichmann, frei denken uni basel, 8 May 2013, approx 25 attendees.

Presentation “**The Battle for Compassion: Ethics in an Apathetic Universe**”

Dr. Jonathan Leighton, frei denken uni basel, 10 April 2013, approx. 45 attendees.

Summer Camp 2013

Around 30 persons got together **from 12 to 15 September 2013** in Riemenstalden (Schwyz, Switzerland) in order to exchange ideas, foster interdisciplinary approaches, hold interesting discussions, and to work together on projects.

Networking

Participation of a GBS delegation in the presentation of the **annual report of Aiducation International** (AiduForum), 24 September 2013, Zurich.

Skype discussions with **experts from abroad**.

Promotion of networking with experts via social media as well as discussion in several internet forums and social media platforms.

Participation at the regional meeting of the GBS in Hamburg (Germany), May 2013.

Invitation of **Philipp Möller** (GBS press spokesperson) to Basel.

Networking with different national and international partner organisations:

Switzerland: frei denken uni basel, Freidenker-Vereinigung der Schweiz (FVS), Skeptiker Schweiz, Camp Quest Schweiz, science et cité, Denkfest, Effective Altruism Switzerland, frei denken uni/eth zürich, THINK Uni Bern, THINK at the University of St. Gallen ...

Germany: Giordano Bruno Stiftung, Humanistischer Verband Deutschland, Korso (umbrella association, coordinator of secular organisations)

Further activities

Many activities were carried out by volunteers, the board of directors simply coordinated the work, introduced them to the workflows, and provided corresponding guidelines.