

# EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

## EVENT DETAILS

### Date:

4 and 5 November, 2020  
13:30 – 17:30

### Organizer:

NCCR Molecular Systems  
Engineering, Basel

## Registration

## SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE AND EQUALITY – A CONTRADICTION?

The goals of this conference are to discuss current academic, structural and institutional challenges universities face today to promote equality while assuring that a high level of scientific excellence is maintained. It is hoped that the active discourse amongst the attendees not only stimulate a higher awareness for unconscious bias and gender differences but also result in the identification of promising measures of success to reach a true state of equal opportunity.

## AGENDA

### Wednesday November 4 2020

13:30 - 13:40 Welcome address by MBA, MA **Hala Helmy**, NCCR MSE, Managing Director

**13:40 - 15:10 Session 1: Plenary session, open for all**

Keynote: Prof. Dr. **Tom Welton**, OBE FRSC FCGI, Imperial College London

Chair: Prof. Dr. **Thomas R. Ward**, NCCR MSE, Director

- Meaning of equal opportunity and diversity
- Structural university barriers and benefits of diversity
- Involvement and influence of the younger generation
- Ways and examples of best practice

**15:30 - 17:30 Session 2: Round table discussion with NCCR MSE members, by invitation**

Keynote: Dr. **Andrea Zimmermann** and **Fleur Weibel**, University of Basel, Gender Studies

Co-Chair: Prof. Dr. **Andrea Maihofer**, Emerita, Gender Studies

Co-Chair: Prof. Dr. **Thomas Ward**, NCCR MSE, Director

Moderator: Dr. **Ralf Stutzki**, NCCR MSE, Head Ethics

- Current cooperation project between the Center for Gender Studies, University of Basel and NCCR MSE. Presentation and discussion of the research findings "Gender & Science: Analysing Gender Structures in the NCCR MSE".

### Thursday November 5 2020

**13:30 - 15:10 Session 3: Round table discussion with University decision makers, by invitation**

Chair: Prof. Dr. **Jens Gaab**, University of Basel, Associated Vice President for Diversity and Sustainability

Moderator: **Nicole Kälin**, University of Basel, Head of Diversity

With Prof. Dr. **Tom Welton**, Imperial College London

- How to bring about cultural change and buildup a university environment of diversity
- Identification of required resources, partners, networks and commitments
- Pros and cons of established policies
- Ways and examples of best practice

**15:30 - 17:30 Session 4: Round table discussion with NCCR EO and SNSF officers, by invitation**

Chair: Dr. des. **Simona Isler**, SNSF, Gender Equality in Research Funding

Moderator: MBA, MA **Hala Helmy**, NCCR MSE, Managing Director

With Prof. Dr. **Tom Welton**, Imperial College London

- Furthering scientific excellence and equal opportunity
- The benefit of programs such as Athena SWAN
- Ways and examples of best practice for resource and financial investment