

**PolyDoc General Assembly
N°4, December 10th 2020, 18:00
By Annie Guillaume and Gael Lederrey**

Members present: (cf. Annexe 1)

Meeting opened at 18h00

1. Welcome+Agenda

Nick starts the introduction and welcomes to everyone via zoom. He gives an overview of what PolyDoc is and what the GA is. He also gives an overview of the agenda.

2. Become an official member

Nick asks people present to join as an official member for PolyDoc via this link: <https://groups.epfl.ch/cgi-bin/groups/addme?groupid=S21361>.

People have to be members to be able to vote.

3. Reports of activities 2019-2020

The goals of the PolyDoc association was explained: developing a PhD community, offering a frame of cooperation and communicating important information. He thanked EDOC for the funding that allows us to do activities to be possible.

- **In-person**

Aperos were planned to be organised once a month for PhDs to meet, both for social and informative purposes. Due to the Coronavirus, there were only 3 aperos: The GA in December 2019, the tandem apero in February 2020, and the Fribourg antenna apero in February 2020.

Nick thanked everyone who attended and helped run the aperos.

Apéros:

- **Virtual Apéros**

In lieu of in-person aperos, PolyDoc ran virtual aperos to keep connections between students. These began as once a week events for informal connections during the April-July confinement. This then moved to less frequency, being replaced by 3 zoom trivia nights every other month.

- **Other activities**

Discord server to keep students connected from home (memes, gaming, etc), as well as setting up a well-being page specific to coronavirus to help PhD students' mental health.

- **PhD representation**

The main activities were to coordinate with PhD student representatives and exchange information, communicating via a slack channel. PolyDoc coordinated to keep all new representatives included in relevant groups. We had 6 consultations that we were invited to collaborate on stances in 2020:

- Consultation on “the directive on education following the COVID-19 pandemic”
- Restricted consultation on the “Organization of the Associate Vice Presidencies of the VPA”

- Consultation on “EPFL Agreement on objectives 2021-2024”
- Restricted Consultation on “Total revision of the disciplinary regulations concerning EPFL students”
- Internal Consultation on the ETH Domain Gender Strategy 2021-2024
- Consultation on “Rules and Regulations concerning the organization of EPFL outposts”

Worked with EDOC to coordinate PhD student questions during the Town Hall.

4. Statutes approval

Nick introduced the link to the statutes on the polydoc website, where we are asking them for their opinion if they want to change the stances that applied during the year.

Every PhD-student can find the documents on PolyDoc’s website:

https://www.epfl.ch/campus/associations/list/polydoc/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/PolyDoc-Statuts-2019-2020-FR_EN.pdf

No need to vote, as no one suggested changes.

5. Presentation of ongoing and future projects.

Maintaining one apero a month. PolyDoc would like to continue developing aperos in the antennas (particularly Fribourg) and may begin collaborating with the Postdoc association.

Continue online trivia events while in-person events are not allowed or safe. Continue collaboration with PhD representatives and Council/Assembly members will continue. Organization of single events like Christmas events, trivia evenings, hiking weekends in Switzerland, and game nights were proposed.

Call for motivated students to contribute with ideas and help with the events; Any other ideas could be proposed by the members which PolyDoc will help organize.

6. Presentation of the Balance Sheet 2019-2020

Gael represents the balance sheet of 2019 was reported with a final balance of 7’569.17 CHF. Presented the charges and products. Assets, Equities and Liabilities were detailed. Expenses and earnings were reported.

We had asked for funding from EDOC planning for a normal year, but exceptional circumstances meant we only had 2 apero spendings, and sponsored the Fribourg apero.

Aperos were the largest expense. EDOC was the largest source of income. In total we retained 4320.43 CHF in 2020.

7. Reading of the auditors’ report

Alexandra Waskow and Thomas Weatherley completed a thorough audit of the accounting and supported the treasurer with preparing the balance sheet. All circumstances comply with the law

and statutes and everything was confirmed by the auditors. The treasurer was well organised and well prepared with tracking all expenses. The accounting was approved with the following vote:

Acceptation of the accounting

Vote: % for out of 29 participants

Yes - 94%

No - 0%

None of the above - 3%

Abstention - 3%

The accounting 2019-2020 is accepted.

8. Discharge of the Previous Committee

The previous committee will be discharged if approved by the assembly.

Acceptation to discharge the previous committee

Vote: % for out of 29 participants

Yes - 94%

No - 0%

None of the above - 3%

Abstention - 3%

The 2019-2020 committee are discharged

9. Budget 2019-2020 approval

The general assembly was asked to approve the budget. The account balance is kept to be used to account for any unforeseen or supplementary costs.

Will not be asking EDOC for funding because we have retained enough from the 2019-2020 year. Maintained a budget for aperos in a 'normal' year.

Questions asked regarding whether not asking for funding will affect future funding. Gael and Nick answered that it should not be a problem and EDOC are strong supporters of PolyDoc.

Question about whether or not this will affect the 2021-2022 committee with budgeting. Gael responded that it should not be an issue, there is plenty information in the google drive and we have a meeting once a year with EDOC

Acceptation of the 2019-2020 budget:

Vote: % for out of 29 participants

Yes - 94%

No - 0%

None of the above - 3%

Abstention - 3%

The budget 2019-2020 is accepted

10. Committee election

Nick thanks PolyDoc's 2019-2020 committee for all the work they have accomplished.

The next committee was proposed to have a new structure including 3 social events coordinators (one for Fribourg and 2 at EPFL main campus), 1 representative coordinator and 2 communications coordinators.

Acceptation of the new committee structure

Vote: % for out of 29 participants

Yes - 94%

No - 0%

None of the above - 3%

Abstention - 3%

The new committee structure is accepted

The Committee is elected for one year by the members present at the General Assembly. Each position is described, and then the candidates present themselves. The voting process is done via ZOOM.

President

The President is informed on all projects and the important discussions happening in the representation branch. The President approves the communications of the association, can speak on the name of PolyDoc and represent the association financially.

Candidates:

Nicholas Morgan

A 3rd year PhD in material sciences, and was for the last 2 years in the PolyDoc committee: Was involved in the committee first as communication coordinator, and more recently as president.

Galina Limorenko

A 3rd year student in life sciences, looking to run for president or vice president.

Vote: % for out of 29 participants

Nicholas Morgan - 90%

Galina Limorenko - 3%

None of the above - 0%

Abstention - 7%

Nicholas Morgan is elected President

Vice-president

The Vice-president assists the President in his or her task and can replace the President when needed.

Candidates:

Annie Guillaume

A 2nd year student in environmental and civil engineering. She was a PolyDoc events manager last year, and is a student rep for EDCE.

Galina Limorenko

A 3rd year student in life sciences, looking to run for president or vice president.

Vote: % for out of 29 participants

Annie Guillaume - 86%

Galina Limorenko - 0%

None of the above - 0%

Abstention - 14%

Annie Guillaume is elected Vice-President

Treasurer

The Treasurer has to manage the bank account, control the budget of the association and can represent the association financially. Treasurer has to be aware of all the necessary incomes and outcomes, budget operations of the association and decide with the President and Vice-President the financial support of projects.

Candidates:

Carl Bormann

PolyDoc committee member last year as the representation coordinator, and auditor for 2018-2019 GA, and has also been on other organisation committees in the past.

Vote: % for out of 29 participants

Carl Bormann - 87 %

None of the above - 3%

Abstention - 10%

Carl Bormann is elected Treasurer

Representation Coordinator

The representation coordinators are responsible to keep a communication network between all PhD representation groups (PhD-student Representatives in EDOC, School Assembly, Faculties, Sections, ...).

Candidates:

Ayush Agarwal

A 1st year PhD in energy program, not based on EPFL but here for courses. Been on campus twice. He wants to stay in contact with EPFL and learn more about it.

Vote: % for out of 28 participant

Ayush Agarwal - 83%

None of the above - 7%

Abstention - 10%

Ayush Agarwal is elected Representation Coordinator

Social Events Coordinators (x3)

Logistical in nature. Organizing different events (mostly aperos) and coordinating with other organizations to enhance the aperos.

Candidates:

Romain Dubuis

A 2nd year student in civil engineering. Interested in organising events. Motivated to welcome new students

Dieuwerje Modder

A 2nd year PhD student. Part of past committees in other organisations. Has lots of ideas for helping to get PhD students to get to know other people outside of their groups

Evangelos Belias

A 2nd year PhD student in Fribourg. He organised the first Fribourg apero. Running for the events coordinator for Fribourg antenna.

Vote: % for out of 28 participants

Main campus (x2):

Romain Dubuis - 93%

Dieuwertje Modder - 93%

None of the above - 4 %

Abstention - 3%

Fribourg campus (x1):

Evangelos Belias -93%

None of the above - 0%

Abstention - 7%

Romain Dubuis, Dieuwertje Modder and Evangelos Belias are elected Social Events Coordinators

Communications Coordinators (x2)

The Communications positions are responsible for maintaining the website, keeping in touch with the Facebook page and writing the emails to the PhD students.

Candidates:

Guillaume Broggi

A 3rd year PhD student who has been in PolyDoc for 2 years. Was communication coordinator last year and keen to stay in the position, particularly as there is the new EDOC newsletter.

Gael Lederrey

A 4th year PhD student likely to finish in September (with possible extension). Currently on the PolyDoc committee as treasurer, looking to fill a smaller role this year.

Vote: % for out of 28 participants

Guillaume Broggi - 89%

Gael Lederrey - 86%

None of the above - 0%

Abstention - 11%

Guillaume Broggi and Gael Lederrey are elected Communications Coordinators

11. Election Auditors

The auditors are responsible to check the budget of the association. It would involve someone who is not in the committee who would check if the finances are in order or not. Two external

auditors are required. Nick explained that the auditing is mostly just checking balance sheets and ensuring totals are correct. The tricky part is accounting near the end of the fiscal year.

Candidates:

Galina Limorenko

Marie Bachmayer

Vote: % for out of 26 participants

Galina Limorenko - 88%

Marie Bachmayer - 88%

None of the above - 0%

Abstention - 12%

Galina Limorenko and Marie Bachmayer are elected as the Auditors

12. Close

The general assembly was asked for other questions, if any.

Galina brought up neurodiversity events and PolyDoc as a contributor.

The general assembly closes at 19:06 with online apero using GatherTown

<https://gather.town/app/DzdEz3ymlyy9CMPK/PolyDoc>