

Newsletter

FG Computational Sciences

17. October 2026

Events:

22.10.2026	General Assembly of FG with Fondue
6.11.2026	Mulled Wine Evening

Varia:

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Events

General Assembly of the Computational Sciences Student Association

With following Fondue-Dinner

On **22 October 2026 at 18:15**, our student association's annual general assembly (GV) will take place in the **cafeteria of the UB Medicine** (Spiegelgasse 5, 6th floor). All students and alumni of the University of Basel's Computational Sciences degree programme are invited. The assembly gives you the opportunity to meet fellow students, stay up to date, and actively help shape the student interests of the programme.

The following agenda items are planned for the GV:

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Formalities**
 - a. Attendance
 - b. Establishment of Quorum, Vote Counters and Protocol Writer
 - c. Approval of Language
 - d. Approval of Agenda
- 3. Announcements**
 - a. Chairmanship
 - b. Education Commission
 - c. Finances
- 4. Motions**
 - a. Logo
 - b. Standing on Open Letter Regarding Sexualised Assault
- 5. Board Election**
- 6. Varia**

The motion proposals will be explained in more detail later in this newsletter.

Following the General Assembly, a fondue meal will be offered. Those who would like to attend the fondue should register below. No registration is required for the general assembly itself.

Sign up for Fondue-Dinner!

Mulled Wine Evening

Pre-Announcement

When: Friday, 6.11.2026

More info will follow...

Varia

Sexualised Violence at the University of Basel

Planning of an Open Letter by Various Student Associations

The executive board of our student association has been contacted regarding the planning of an open letter by the Gender Studies student association. This group (along with numerous other student associations) wishes to call upon the University of Basel to take stronger action against sexualized violence. This includes implementing prevention measures, victim support services, and more transparent handling and documentation of such cases.

The catalyst for this development is several recent reports of sexualized violence within the University of Basel. At this year's General Assembly of the Computational Sciences student association, a vote will be held on supporting the movement and signing this open letter.

The open letter reads as follows: **(The original version is in German. This is a translation only!)**

University Council
Senate, Rectorate, Rectors' Conference
All Faculties and Departments of the University of Basel
Staff and Students
Office for Personal Integrity
Public

Basel, [Date]

Dear Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Andrea Schenker-Wicki
Dear Addressees

We, [the/number] student associations of the University of Basel, have come together to write this open letter. We are shocked by the University of Basel's handling of sexualized violence. With its current measures, the University of Basel does not sufficiently guarantee the protection of students and affected individuals, meaning that no safe environment is ensured at the University of Basel. Through joint exchanges, we have therefore developed demands to sustainably and long-term improve the structural problems at the University of Basel regarding sexualized violence.

Particularly concerning is the University of Basel's handling of known cases of sexualized violence, which is characterized by silence, protection of perpetrators, lack of solidarity and support for affected individuals, inadequate investigation, and failure to take responsibility. Although the University of Basel has issued statements, organized two panel discussions on the topic, and made internal changes—such as online training and increased staffing levels at the Office for Personal Integrity—the known cases of sexualized violence were neither mentioned nor addressed. Perpetrators are still protected and continue to teach at the University of Basel without any public clarification of the acts committed. This is highly critical, as students must be able to make informed decisions about with whom they enter relationships of dependency. The University of Basel must not offer space to persons who have perpetrated sexualized violence and may continue to do so, nor maintain such space. Therefore, we demand that the University of Basel publicly takes a clear stance.

- 1) We demand not concealment, but the public processing of past cases. This should at minimum include: Public naming of the perpetrators, what specifically happened, how the University of Basel acted, and what consequences were implemented. The anonymity of affected individuals must remain protected.*
- 2) We demand a public declaration of solidarity with affected individuals, and an acknowledgment and assumption of responsibility for the misconduct of the University of Basel.*
- 3) We demand a public statement regarding the perpetrator protection practiced by the University of Basel in previous cases.*
- 4) We demand the immediate dismissal or immediate exclusion of perpetrators from the University of Basel, so that potential future acts by these persons can be prevented and the University of Basel's position against sexualized violence can be taken seriously.*
- 5) We demand measures that support and protect affected individuals rather than perpetrators going forward. Therefore, we demand urgent revision of the website regarding the message "Have the courage" to say 'no'. Additionally, we demand use of the term 'sexualized violence' instead of 'sexual harassment'.*

The slogan of the university campaign against sexualized violence, "Prevention requires knowledge," hits the mark. But knowledge about previous cases is not disseminated, and information about university contact points and procedures in cases of sexualized violence is not easily accessible. Particularly important are not only awareness-raising and easily accessible information for students, but also a reflective approach to power imbalances within misogynistic, trans- and queerphobic, patriarchal, racist, classist, or ableist structures held by persons in positions of power. We welcome the introduction of online training, which according to statements from the Office for Personal Integrity must be completed mandatorily by all staff. Unfortunately, we know of some staff members who were neither informed about the training nor received a request to complete it.

- 6) We therefore demand that the communicated procedure and regulation for training are actually carried out as stated: Completion of the training should be tracked internally and reminders sent regularly. Additionally, we demand that completion of this training become part of the employment contract and be completed during the induction period.
- 7) We demand, in addition to mandatory training for all doctoral students starting from PhD level, a workshop enabling in-depth engagement with the topics of power positions, hierarchy, sexualized violence, discrimination, and bullying.
- 8) We demand that information for students be better disseminated and more clearly communicated. The following documents should therefore be included in the welcome letter for new students: The Code of Conduct (CoC), documents on university contact points and their functions, documents on the University of Basel's procedures in case of violations of personal integrity, and documents on measures the University of Basel takes to protect students. Additionally, an email listing the current documents with their corresponding links should be sent to all University members at the beginning of each semester.
- 9) We further demand that these documents and information be adopted and disseminated by all faculties and departments. In particular, the CoC and the Office for Personal Integrity should be mentioned verbally in the first session of each course at minimum.

We welcome the "Prevention requires knowledge" campaign, the introduction of online training, and the conduct of both panel discussions, but are deeply disappointed that the measures appear to end here. The second panel discussion on sexualized violence was concluded with the comment that it was hoped this would now be enough and that the topic would be continued in other ways. The panel discussions neither clarified specific past cases of sexualized violence at the University of Basel, nor achieved structurally sustainable improvements for affected individuals. Furthermore, responsibility for addressing and handling sexualized violence is shifted onto students. Although the University of Basel constantly seems to speak of assuming responsibility, this does not occur in practice. The selective conduct of events on this topic is important and necessary, but it is essential that these structures are emphasized and addressed throughout the year, not only on individual days. This requires sustainable, long-term structural changes.

- 10) We therefore demand systematic documentation of all reports of violations of personal integrity—which includes not only sexualized violence, but also bullying, discrimination of any kind, and other behaviours that violate personal integrity. Additionally, it should be disclosed how these reports are documented.
- 11) We demand that concrete actions and consequences follow reports.
- 12) We demand that the Office for Personal Integrity, upon request by affected individuals, point out misconduct to the perpetrator(s) anonymously or seek a conversation if appropriate.
- 13) We demand creation of an annual report each summer, encompassing: What was reported how often, and what procedures and measures were initiated. Additionally, statistics on reports, comparison with the previous year, and re-evaluation of available university contact points and structures. This includes recognizing one's own need for action and improvement potential. This annual report should generate a feedback loop, be publicly accessible, and be sent via email to all University members.
- 14) We demand the following changes to the Office for Personal Integrity: The possibility for walk-ins without prior appointment during given opening hours, accompanied by corresponding adjustment of staffing levels.
- 15) We demand an anonymous reporting channel (e.g., online) and systematic retention of these reports.

The University of Basel must not give space to intrusive, violent, excluding, and discriminatory behaviour and must uphold the personal integrity of its students and staff and protect them against discrimination and sexualized violence.

Therefore, we demand that the University of Basel acknowledges our demands and provides a comprehensive statement by [Date], outlining concrete plans for implementation.

Sincerely,

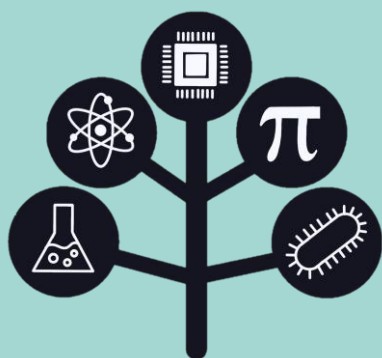
Election of FG Logo – Your opinion is asked!

For several years, the board of the student association (FG) has been working on developing its own logo, which we will be able to use for our website, merchandise, newsletter, and other purposes. With Ayana joining the board last semester, the project has entered its next phase of development. Over the past few months, Ayana and Sabine have worked on several logo designs.

At the next General Assembly (GV) on Thursday, 22 October 2026, we will vote on the proposed designs. Together, we will decide which design will move forward to the final development phase and potentially become the official logo of our FG.

To give you a chance to look at the designs ahead of the GV and think about which one you like the best and which one you could imagine wearing on T-shirt, for example, we are sharing the different designs with you in advance.

A big thank you to Ayana and Sabine for their creativity and hard work!



***Note:** The logo is intended solely to represent the student association and is not officially affiliated with the university or the Computational Sciences degree programme. It is not an official logo of either the university or the degree programme.*

A New Measure

Colloquium of Physics Department

For all physics enthusiasts, a colloquium with Nobel Laureate Prof. Dr. William D. Phillips from the Institute for Physical Science and Technology at the University of Maryland will take place this **Monday, 19. October 2026**. The talk will explore the revolutionary redefinition of the modern metric system based on quantum physics.

Prof. Dr. William D. Phillips received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1997 for his contributions to the development of methods for cooling and trapping atoms using laser light.

The colloquium will take place on Monday, 19 October 2026, at 16:15 in the Main Lecture Hall of the Department of Physics. No prior registration is required.

For further information about the event, please visit the [official event page of the Department of Physics](#).

To learn more about Prof. Dr. William D. Phillips and his Nobel Prize, visit the [official website of the Nobel Prize Committee](#).



The revolutionary, quantum reform
of the modern metric system

$h = 6.626\,070\,15 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{s}$

$E = h \times f$

A New Measure

Monday, October 19th 2026, 16:15
Uni Basel / Dpt. Physik, Gr. Hörsaal

vbg

Impressions of Past FG Events



You can see more pictures of FG events here:

[Foto Gallery of FG Computational](#)

RunningCOACH

With runningCOACH you get a **dynamic training plan** from 5k to Marathon. After every session it evaluates your data, gives you feedback and adapts the plan if needed. The platform exists for more than 10 years. Behind it is true knowledge from Swiss Olympic athletes. As a student it is handy to create a plan with ChatGPT or Claude, but the quality is poor. Your progress is overestimated and it often ends with injuries and lost motivation. Therefore we have created a special plan only for students at UniBasel. The **first month is free** and then **5.-/month**.



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Student Association
Computational Sciences
University of Basel

