The University of Zurich

Founded in 1833, the University of Zurich (UZH) is today Switzerland’s largest university. With a current enrollment of 26,000 students and over 100 subject areas on offer, it boasts the most comprehensive academic program in the country.

The University’s seven faculties offer a wide variety of Bachelor’s, Master’s, and PhD programs. More than 5,000 academic staff (including 600 professors) research and teach at the University’s 150 institutes.

As a member of the League of European Research Universities (LERU), UZH is one of Europe’s most prestigious research institutions.

The University’s international standing is reflected in the many distinctions awarded to its members over the years, including 12 Nobel Prizes. The first of UZH’s Nobel laureates was Wilhelm Röntgen, who was recipient of the inaugural Nobel Prize in Physics.

The proximity between medical research and the clinical services provided in the University’s five hospitals translates into first-rate medical care for the general population.
Research and teaching are the University’s core focus, with both being essential to the ongoing development of UZH as a place of education and scholarship.

UZH’s academic excellence brings benefits to both the public and the private sectors, not only in the Canton of Zurich, but throughout the whole of Switzerland. UZH shares the findings of its cutting-edge research via its public museums, libraries, lecture series, and panel discussions.

Through its spin-off ventures and partner companies, UZH actively promotes the transfer of research-based knowledge into private enterprise while generating attractive employment opportunities in innovative fields.

UZH’s continuing education programs integrate the latest research developments, thus guaranteeing highly efficient knowledge transfer between higher education institutions and practitioners.

The University engages in close scholarly collaboration with ETH Zurich in a variety of disciplines.
Dynamic Scholarship via Interdisciplinary Research Networks

National Centers of Competence in Research
Our research priority programs are high-level, long-term research projects that cultivate interdisciplinary approaches and innovation within the disciplines involved. The University of Zurich is the Leading House for the following three National Centers of Competence in Research (NCCR):

- NCCR Democracy
- NCCR Kidney.ch
- NCCR Mediality

University Research Priority Programs
In order to maintain its standing at the forefront of international research and scholarship, UZH has initiated a broad range of University Research Priority Programs (URPP). These programs aim to strengthen and bring together selected academic fields within the University while promoting highly qualified young scholars. Current URPP at UZH are:

- Asia and Europe
- Dynamics of Healthy Aging
- Ethics
- Evolution in Action: From Genomes to Ecosystems
- Financial Market Regulation
– Global Change and Biodiversity
– Integrative Human Physiology
– Social Networks
– Language and Space
– Systems Biology/Functional Genomics
– Translational Cancer Research
– Solar Light to Chemical Energy Conversion

Faculty Research Priority Programs
The seven faculties at the University of Zurich have a variety of research priority programs. These interdisciplinary and interfaculty programs build on UZH’s excellent research competencies, enhance collaborative opportunities, and foster the development of highly qualified junior researchers.

The Faculty of Medicine has also defined Clinical Research Priority Programs that are carried out in cooperation with the University’s hospitals.

Further information on research priority programs
High Flyers
At UZH, drones are being developed to assess damage, measure radioactivity, and search for survivors in disaster areas.

High-Yield Plant Communities
A European team of researchers led by UZH ecologists has discovered that plant communities yield better harvests than conventional monocultures.

Ancient Greek Inscriptions Discovered
In the Turkish city of Milas, UZH historians have excavated the longest known Ancient Greek inscription carved in stone. The verses are currently being translated.

A Protein Like a Swiss Army Knife
Researchers at UZH are working on a protein, Cas9, that has the potential to revolutionize genetic engineering.
Master Plan – Zurich Central University District
After completing the main building in 1914 and developing Irchel Campus from 1979 to 1999, expanding City Campus is the third strategic milestone in UZH’s building history.

Linking Theory and Practice
Linguist Heiko Hausendorf won the 2014 Teaching Award for the innovative mobile lecture he held at Zurich Main Station. The prize was bestowed at the Dies academicus ceremonies.

Moss in Outer Space
UZH plant biologists are researching whether moss can survive in outer space or on Mars.
UZH in Figures

Studies

New Students¹

4 229

4 477 (2013)

Students by Faculty

Faculty of Theology

Faculty of Law

Faculty of Economics, Business Administration and Information Technology

Faculty of Medicine

Vetsuisse Faculty

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Faculty of Science

Teaching Staff

4 524

4 295 (2013)

Professors

612

584 (2013)

Students¹

25 63

25 715 (2013)

Enrollment since 1970

¹ Excluding Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) programs and students from other universities attending UZH in a mobility or exchange program (“incomings”)

² Given in full-time equivalents (FTE) as at 31 December

³ Excluding apprentices and trainees
**Staff**

- **Professors**: 2,084 (2013)
- **Non-professorial academic staff**: 2,062 (2013)
- **Administrative and technical staff**: 562 (2013)
- **Total**: 6,098 (2013)

**Degrees Awarded**

- **Total**: 5,932
- **PhD Degrees**: 719

**Staff 2009–2014**

- **Full-time equivalents (FTE)**:
  - Professors
  - Non-professorial academic staff
  - Administrative and technical staff

**Administrative and technical staff**

- 2009: 2,084
- 2010: 2,062
- 2011: 588
- 2012: 562
- 2013: 3,425
- 2014: 3,237
Finances

Income 2014\(^4\) (in CHF millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Income 2014</th>
<th>Income 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Theology</td>
<td>178.1</td>
<td>+ 5.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
<td>272.3</td>
<td>+ 2.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Economics, Business Administration and Information Technology</td>
<td>353.2</td>
<td>+ 5.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Medicine</td>
<td>889.7</td>
<td>+ 1.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vetsuisse Faculty</td>
<td>150.1</td>
<td>+ 5.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences</td>
<td>156.8</td>
<td>+ 5.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Science</td>
<td>88.4</td>
<td>+ 5.3 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Costs/Income per Faculty (in CHF millions)\(^4\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Costs/Income 2014</th>
<th>Costs/Income 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Theology</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>11.3 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
<td>42.8</td>
<td>41.9 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Economics, Business Administration and Information Technology</td>
<td>58.2</td>
<td>55.1 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Medicine</td>
<td>150.1</td>
<td>156.9 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vetsuisse Faculty</td>
<td>156.8</td>
<td>153.6 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences</td>
<td>353.2</td>
<td>340.8 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Science</td>
<td>88.4</td>
<td>89.0 (2013)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

University funds per faculty (total expenditure/income) excluding Central Services, the “Forschungskredit,” reconciliatory items, and external funding.

\(^4\) Some data from the previous year adjusted for comparison
Total income at the University of Zurich for the year under review amounted to 1,350.1 million francs, which represents a year-on-year increase of 29.6 million francs (+2.2 percent). As in previous years, this growth is attributable to higher basic federal funding as well as funding from the cantons, expansion of the University’s services, and higher external funding. The financial result increased by 1.7 million francs compared to 2013. Funding from the Canton of Zurich fell by 2.3 million from 601.1 million to 598.8 million francs.

The number of staff members increased by 236.7 positions to reach 6,097.9 full-time equivalents, a growth of 4 percent. As in 2013, this increase pertains to the higher number of academic positions (professors and academic associates), which raised the costs for staff to 811.4 million francs (+3.1 percent).

Outlay for other operating expenses and financial expenditure fell to 528.8 million francs (-14.3 million francs), which is attributable mainly to the lower building utilization costs. As a result, an annual profit of 9.9 million francs was realized, representing a year-on-year increase of 19.8 million francs.
University Governance
Status: February 2015

Board of the University

Regine Aeppli, lic. iur.
President, Member of the
Government Council of the
Canton of Zurich

Barbara Basting, Staatsexamen
Head of Fine Arts, Cultural Affairs
City of Zurich

Ulrich Jakob Looser
Dipl. Phys. ETH / lic. oec. HSG
HSG Partner at BLR & Partners

Prof. Dr. med. Hans-Rudolf Lüscher
Emeritus Professor of Physiology
at the University of Bern

Dr. Urs Oberholzer
Vice President
Former ZKB Bank Council
President

Dr. Kathy Riklin, dipl. Natw. ETH
Member of the Swiss National
Council

Dr. Christoph Wehrli
Historian, Editor “Neue Zürcher
Zeitung”

Executive Board of the University

Prof. Dr. Michael Hengartner
President

Prof. Dr. Christoph Hock
Vice President for Medicine and
Science

Prof. Dr. Otfried Jarren
Vice President for Arts and Social
Sciences

Prof. Dr. Christian Schwarzenegger
Vice President for Law and
Economics

Stefan Schnyder, dipl. Ing. ETH
Director of Finances, Human
Resources and Infrastructure

Deans of the Faculties

Prof. Dr. Thomas Schlag
Faculty of Theology

Prof. Dr. Christine Kaufmann
Faculty of Law

Prof. Dr. Harald Gall
Faculty of Economics, Business
Administration and Information
Technology

Prof. Dr. Klaus Grätz
Faculty of Medicine

Prof. Dr. Brigitte von Rechenberg
Vetsuisse Faculty

Prof. Dr. Andreas H. Jucker
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Prof. Dr. Bernhard Schmid
Faculty of Science
One University
Four Campuses

Oerlikon Campus
Affolternstrasse 56
Andreasstrasse 15
Binzmühlestrasse 14
8050 Zurich

Irchel Campus
Winterthurerstrasse 190
8057 Zurich

City Campus
Rämistrasse 71
8006 Zurich
Schlieren Campus
Wagistrasse 12 und 14
8952 Schlieren