How CH-Quat is contributing or is willing to contribute to implementing the issues raised by 'We scientists shape science' ?

CH-QUAT

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board member of CH-Quat

UNIVERSITÉ
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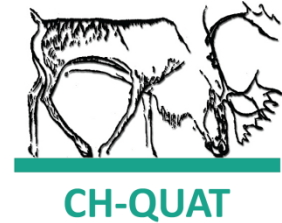
sc|nat

Let's Live Science Culture – Bern – 19.5.2017

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WHO ARE WE? Swiss Society for Quaternary Research
-connection point for <u>scientists</u> from different <u>research</u> and <u>applied</u> <u>areas</u> dealing with the Quaternary period (last 2.6 Ma of Earth history)
-human - environment – climate aspects.
-ca. 100 members

WHAT DO WE DO?
• Annual meetings
• Organization of excursions and specialized courses
• Awarding of travel stipends for young researchers
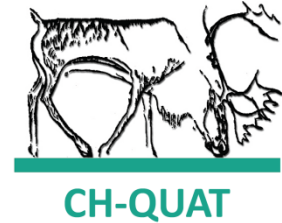
Time for Research

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ALREADY ACHIEVED

-CH-Quat tries to **keep its administration small & simple** and to avoid unnecessary meetings and unnecessary travelling (meetings at train stations).

-The Board of CH-Quat shares the administration and organization tasks to **reduce the administrative work load of individuals**.

-**Simple and easy grant application** reduces the workload of both applicants and board members.

All these measures promote a more efficient and 'lean' administration which ultimately favors more time for research. This can be very easily applied to many other societies and institutions.
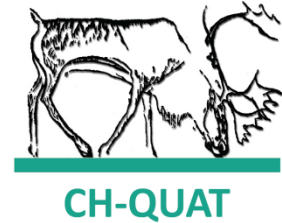
Space for Creativity

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NEW IDEAS

-CH-Quat could allocate short term (a few months ?) **research funding to risky / new ideas in Quaternary sciences** ('*My crazy Quaternary*'). The target could be wide, i.e. students & professors & people from the practice.

-CH-Quat could allocate money for **apprentice to do short term research within a private company**.

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Scientific Career

-CH-Quat **board includes an early stage researcher** (typically PhD student) to improve its work toward younger researchers.
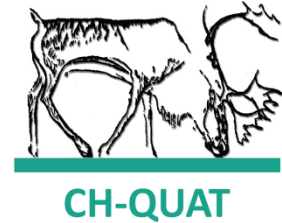
NEW IDEAS
-CH-Quat could help **coordinating exchanges between individuals or teams** to spend a few days in the lab of the other (person or team) and promote exchanges **between people from academia and the practice** too ('*Try my Quaternary team*'). This would help building networks of young researchers and ideas exchange. Risk: too much work for the Board.

-CH-Quat could encourage its members to **publish job opportunities** on its web platform. Risk: too much work for the Board.

-ScNat could organize a specific **workshop to help young researchers in their careers**. Not only how to succeed in academia but also how re-orient outside academia with a scientific profile.

Scientific Practice
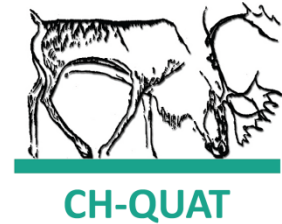

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SOON ACHIEVED
-CH-Quat will include a **specific communication** on science practice during its next **annual assembly conference**.

NEW IDEAS
-CH-Quat could organize a self-reflective workshop taking place every 2-3 years to discuss and learn about important aspects that Quaternary scientists and professionals face in the practice. Typically how to deal with situations that imply questions related to ethics, values, gender bias, integrity, diversity, complexity, uncertainties, reproducibility etc. The help of colleagues in the field of social sciences will be strongly needed.
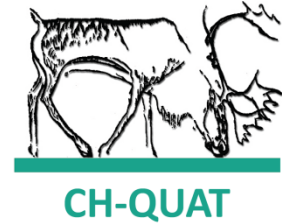
Open Science

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NEW IDEAS

-CH-Quat could **help promote an 'open data policy**' to its members. We believe researchers will only massively start to fully share their data <u>if they get some type of reward for it</u>. The same applies for <u>collaboration and team work</u>. This type of reward <u>can only come from Universities and funding agencies</u>.

-ScNat or SNF could launch a **digital open data platform** at the Swiss level.

Science in Society

NEW IDEAS

-CH-Quat could organize a **simplified excursion** toward the general public. It could happen within the frame of 'Erlebnis Geologie'. Risk: too much work for the Board. External help needed.

-Communication via **Twitter** and not only the Web.

-Promote the idea that **'Everybody has an inner scientist'** in collaboration with other scientific societies . Find ways to show that **scientific questions are part of real life**.

-Go **directly to high schools** to explain the importance of Quaternary questions. Risk: too much work for the Board. External help needed.