



# MIT Club of Switzerland

Newsletter January 2009

## Dear Club Members

### Past event: Visiting the Swiss Light Source

On a bright sunny Saturday, 15 November, more than 20 members of the club visited the Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI) in Villigen, canton Aargau. The main purpose of the visit was to have an inside look of the SLS or Swiss Light Source, an electron synchrotron that is dedicated to producing synchrotron radiation (infrared to X-rays). But firstly, Dr. Joho, our tour guide, provided a presentation on the various research projects that are ongoing within PSI. These include studies of fuel cells for hydrogen-powered cars, radiation therapy using a proton beam, solar energy technology, and nanotechnology. We were then treated to an amusing and instructive 3-D movie explaining accelerators and nuclear spallation. Next came the main purpose of our visit, the SLS. An interesting feature of this facility is that it is housed in a wooden structure, an unusual choice of material by the architect. The accelerator is contained within concrete blocks, but sample models of the beam tube and quadrupole and sextupole magnets were on display. Sixteen light beam-lines are provided for the experiments that include participants from Swiss and international universities as well as researchers in industry. The experiments include studies of protein crystals, surface physics, and materials science.

We would like to thank Warren Schenler who organized the visit.

### Coming Event:

Hockfield  
AGM

### Membership payment 2008

If you find enclosed a payment slip, this means you have not paid the membership fee of 50.- yet. We thank you for making the payment in the next days. Your membership is important to us. Let's keep connected and enjoy good excursions, stimulating input, life-long contact to MIT, and unexpected contacts. Thank you. If you have questions regarding the membership fee, please contact me. Please excuse potential cross postings.

### Electronic payment information:

BIC: UBSWCHZH80A

IBAN CH80 0025 0250 7003 0140 Q

### Or:

BLZ: 250

Acct. Nr: 250-700301.40Q

### Upcoming November: PSI Event

On November 15, we will visit The Swiss Light Source (SLS) at the Paul Scherrer Institute. This is the third-generation synchrotron light source that allows cutting edge research in materials science, biology and chemistry. For example, to discover better data storage systems or new materials for solar cells.

Please see the flyer attached and join us. Please subscribe as soon as possible (see flyer).





# MIT Club of Switzerland

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## Elections for the board

Your participation is needed !

Are you motivated to engage more in the Club? Are you interested to give something back to MIT, by steering the Club and make it better and bigger? Are you intrigued to engage socially, be part of the many who make things happen without financial payment? Would you like to take the opportunity to engage for a good cause? And keep the connection to MIT running?

Many of our board members need to step down as their term of 2-4 years is over. We have 5 board positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Communications.

**If you are interested or not sure yet: Please call or email me.** Let's discuss the opportunities.

## Outlook 2009

The board is already working on the program for 2009. We are again planning a super event in:

- January. Something you will never forget, and something that will attract the world views in the next years. Invitation to follow.
- June 27: Tour to below the rocks, discovering the power stations in the Grimsel area.
- September: Hike in Kandersteg, to Berghotel Schwarzenbach (weekend)
- October 2: Joint Alumni Business Conference

Looking forward to seeing you at the next event!

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donald Tillman".

Donald Tillman, President  
<http://alumweb.mit.edu/clubs/switzerland/default.htm>

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Attachments:

- Invitation and sign up sheet for Paul Scherrer Institute Event
- Payment slip for membership fee (if you don't have one, you have already paid)