

## SNI Membership Regulations

The Swiss Nanoscience Institute (SNI) is a research platform that extends over several departments within the University of Basel and also includes other partner institutions in Northwestern Switzerland. Researchers can participate and contribute to the success of the SNI even if they are located at very different places. Due to this boundary condition, the SNI has created a SNI membership that allows active researchers working in nanoscience to identify themselves with the SNI.

There are five kind of SNI memberships:

- (1) SNI senior member
- (2) SNI junior member
- (3) SNI associate junior member
- (4) SNI associate member
- (5) SNI honorary member

### How to become a member of the SNI?

All researchers who are employed by one of the partner institutions of the SNI, i.e. University of Basel, Paul Scherrer Institute, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland, CSEM Muttenz, ANAXAM, and the D-BSSE of the ETHZ at Basel, can become a senior member. To do so, one has to apply for the membership by e-mail addressed to the SNI secretariat (admin-sni@unibas.ch). All senior members pay an annual fee of 300.– CHF.

Researchers who participate in an Argovia project or are chair or co-chair of a PhD project, but have not yet signed up for membership, will become senior members by default and will be charged the membership fee.

All doctoral students within the SNI PhD School are automatically junior members and stay junior members until they finish their phd. Furthermore, partner institutions of the SNI can apply for an associate junior membership for a doctoral student who is not funded by the SNI PhD School (a doctoral student can only belong to one PhD School exclusively). The respective partner institution and the SNI sign a contract for each associate junior member.

The membership fee of junior and associate junior members is waived. When the doctoral students have finalized their thesis, they can choose to become associate members for a membership fee of 30.– CHF. After a period of 4 years, the associate membership automatically ends.

### SNI Membership benefits

Senior Membership entitles to participate in the research programs organized by the SNI and to obtain funding. In particular, this includes the Argovia program for applied projects and the SNI PhD program.

Furthermore, membership entitles to attend many events specifically organized or sponsored by the SNI for free or at preferred rates. Senior, associate, and junior members of the SNI are invited to the SNI annual meetings, where they can present and discuss their results. Senior, associate, junior and associate junior members can participate at the annual Swiss NanoConvention for free. The SNI is paying the registration fees.

Additionally, the SNI provides guidance and support for communication activities and includes activities of their members in SNI publications (SNI update, catalogue of competencies).

All members are listed in the annual report and on the website of the SNI. We will list their names and the following characteristics: research field, topics and highlights, infrastructure, link to group website.

Members can request a general assembly of all members to be organized if questions emerge that need discussion among the different parties. A minimum of five members have to make this request together directed to the director of the SNI.

### Membership duties

All senior and junior members are obliged to contribute to the annual reporting. Each project chair has to report yearly on her/his activities within each of their projects.

It is expected that associate members stay in contact with the SNI and support SNI activities that are connected to the PhD program and communication.

Furthermore, the SNI expects that all senior members are available and will participate with an equal share in the Nanostudy program. The latter refers to e.g. block courses, teaching *Nano I*, *Nano II* and other dedicated courses within the Nanostudy program. Beyond this, the SNI expects their members to actively participate in the care of our visitors.

### Decision on membership and termination of membership

The board of directors accepts and declines new members. The board of directors is also entitled to terminate membership for members who have no activities related to Nanoscience anymore. Members can only step back, if they do not chair a project or a solution has been found for the continuation of their respective projects. The term of notice is by the end of each calendar year.

It is not our goal to have as many members as possible. We would rather have members who are motivated to participate in all activities of the SNI, i.e. the Nano Argovia, PhD, and Nanostudy program.

Former junior and associate junior members can choose to become associate members when they have finished their PhD. The associate membership lasts 4 years maximum.

Honorary members are nominated yearly by members and accepted by the board of directors. There will be a maximum of one honorary member elected per year.