

# SKACH Consortium Overview

Carolyn Marie Crichton

26 January 2026



Welcome  
to New  
Members!

## Vision

Further Swiss leadership in global, data intensive, radio astronomy.

## Mission

Ensure meaningful contributions to the SKAO and SRCs through the development and delivery of cutting-edge Swiss solutions to key science goals, big data research, technology, and services.



Switzerland joined the SKAO on January 19, 2022

**SKACH is primarily funded by the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI).** Work within the consortium also leverages funding from external grants such as AstroSignals SINERGIA, SNF Bilateral, PASC, and Horizon Europe.



**EPFL**

**ETH** zürich

**Hes**·so

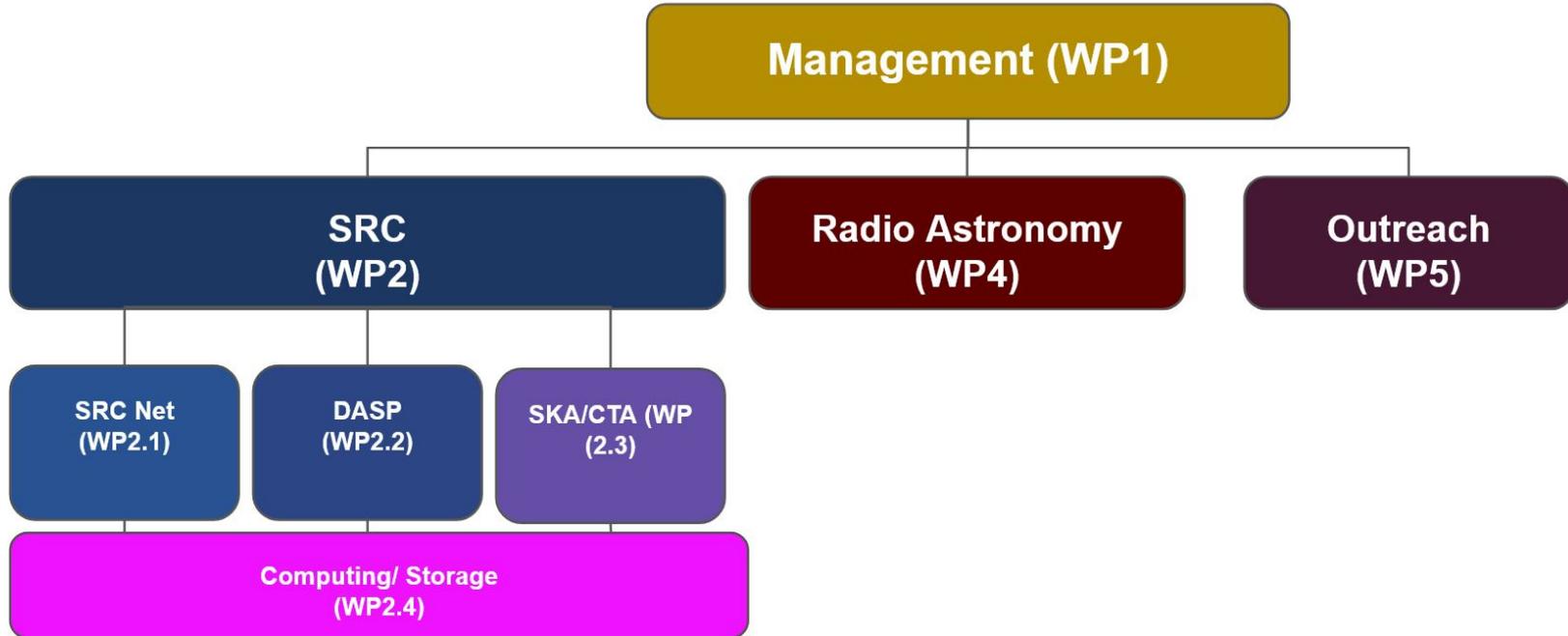
**n|w**

Universität  
Basel



**zhaw**

# SKACH Organization





The SKACH Board is comprised of one voting member from each institution & is responsible for managing SKAO related activities.

**Chair:** Ms. Carolyn Marie Crichton

**Co-Chair:** Ms. Rohini Joshi

**Administrator:** Ariane Capt

#### **Voting Members**

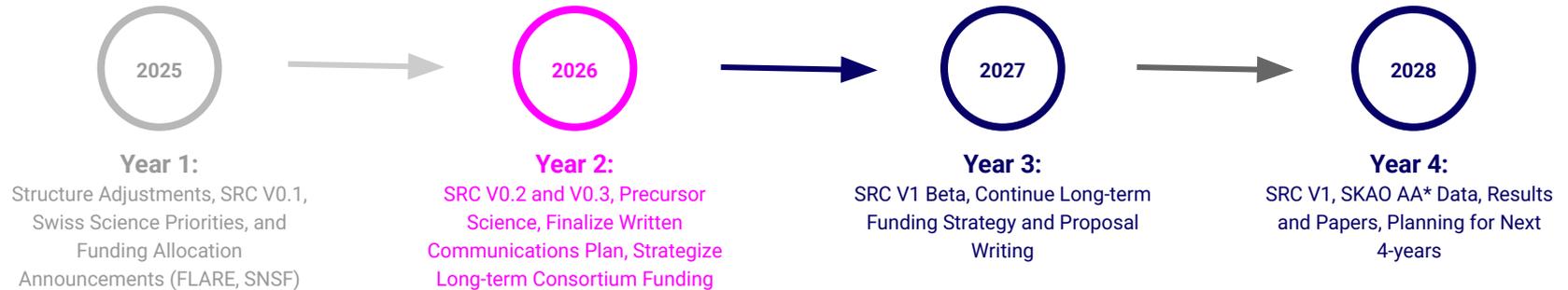
- Prof. André Csillaghy (FHNW)
- Prof. Alexandre Refregier (ETHZ)
- Prof. Daniel Schaerer (UniGe)
- Dr. Elena Gavagnin (ZHAW)
- Dr. Evelina Breschi (HES-SO)
- Prof. Florina Ciorba (UniBas)
- Prof. Jean-Paul Kneib (EPFL)
- Prof. Lucio Mayer (UZH)
- Mr. Pablo Fernandez (CSCS)

**Observer:** Prof. Susanne Wampfler (UniBern)

**Observer:** Dr. Mark Sargent (ISSI)

The SKACH Board. **Left to Right: Top:** Daniel Schaerer, Jean-Paul Kneib, Florina Ciorba, Evelina Breschi, Elena Gavagnin, Carolyn Marie Crichton **Bottom:** André Csillaghy, Alexandre Refregier, Stefan Kögl, Lucio Mayer, Pablo Fernandez

# Progress of the SKACH Consortium



## Industrial Return

- Observatory Management and Control - Cosylab
- Feed Horns - MECHA AG
- Atomic Clocks - Safron
- Electronic components - HUBER & SUHNER
- Co-design - EPFL SCITAS
- Engineering Process - AuditSE-Training GmbH

# 2026 Weekly Meetings



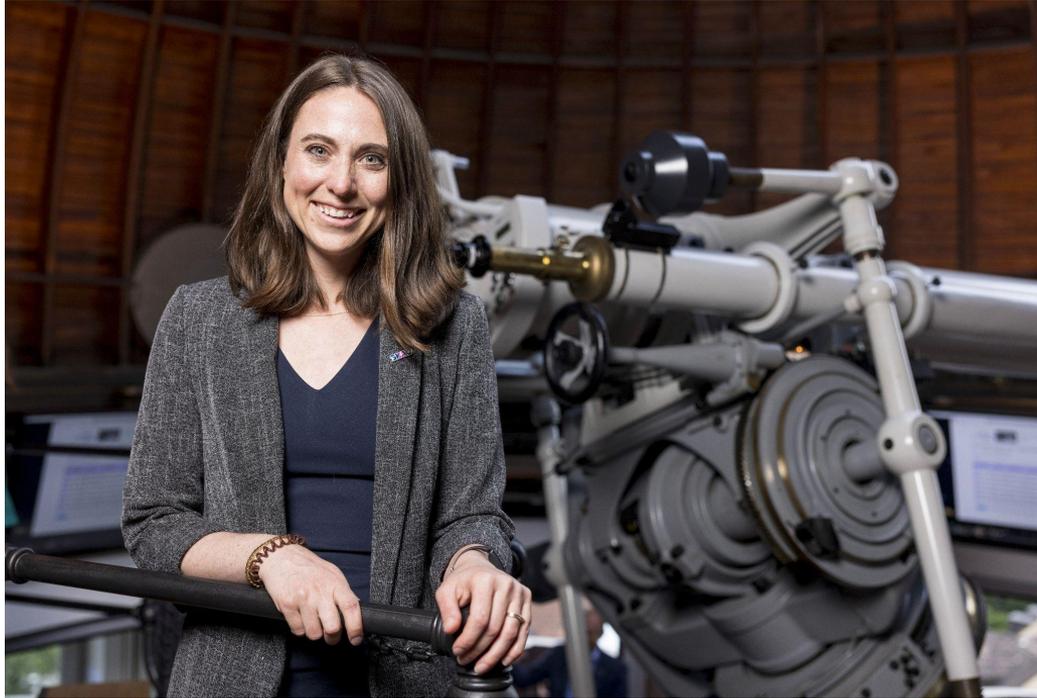
1. For Content, we are having 4 categories of talks:
  1. Guest speakers: Please feel free to add a guest speaker and the topic you would like them to speak on to any week. I will do the chasing to confirm with them, I just need to know who to contact and for what topic
  2. General overview/Science 101: Think "What is interferometry?" or "What are the basics of ML?"
  3. Status update: These are the research updates you know and love, but with more time in between to hear real results.
  4. SKAO update: These will be updates from Council, SKAO Science, SEAC, Construction, PI Planning etc.
2. **We are asking that everyone receiving SERI funding signs up for *AT LEAST* 1-2 updates annually** (this can be 101 or status update). Those with other funding participating in SKACH are welcome to present, and more frequent status updates are also great! Sign-up here:  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1i-lujSXLnugzpgzb0jWLZXYI2BVSbuJj5-UbI3u9E6c/edit?usp=sharing>

# Any Other Business



- Upcoming Events: SKACH Calendar
  - **Winter Meeting 2026 - Lugano**
  - FHNW Compute Center Opening - 2 February 2026
  - TUN Basel - 9 - 15 March
  - Cosmology in the Alps - March 16-20
  - Fantasy Basel - May 14-16
  - EAS - 29 June-3 July - Lausanne
  - **SKA Days 2026 - 31 August to 2 September 2026 - Neuchâtel**
  - PI33: Week commencing 30-Nov-2026
  - **Winter Meeting 2027 - Location TBD**
  - **SKA Days 2027 - 6-8 September 2027 - Lugano**

# Contact Me:



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