



SSCC Business Forum

Startups

01 Feb 2018 Zurich



Prof. Patrick Aebischer

EPFL President Emeritus

Patrick Aebischer was trained as an MD (1980) and a Neuroscientist (1983) at the Universities of Geneva and Fribourg in Switzerland. From 1984 to 1992, he worked at Brown University in Providence (Rhode Island, USA) as an Assistant and then Associate Professor of Medical Sciences. In the fall of 1992, he returned to Switzerland as a Professor and Director of the Surgical Research Division and Gene Therapy Center at CHUV, the Lausanne University Medical School Hospital. In 1999, the Swiss Federal Council appointed him president of the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), a world-class research technical university that he leads until the end of 2016.

Patrick Aebischer is a fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering and a member of the Swiss Academy of Medicine and the Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences. Patrick Aebischer is the founder of three biotechnology companies and is on the board of Lonza, Nestlé and Logitech. He presently chairs the Novartis Venture Fund and is a senior partner of NanoDimension-III.

Marie Wall

Startup Director, Deputy Director, Ministry of Enterprise

Marie Wall is the start-up director at the Swedish Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation. Marie Wall has an MSc in computer science from Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) in Stockholm. With a wide range of positions in the world of start-ups and the innovation system she is the bridge between the ministry and the start-up community.

She started her carrier in IT research, but soon joined the 90's start-up scene. She participated in a number of start-ups such as Everyday.com (one of the first portals in Sweden), Sendit (mobile internet company, bought by Microsoft), Cypak (printed electronics) and Bosieboo (business to consumer). She has also invested in start-ups through the venture capital company Speedventure and as a business angel. Marie has also spent time in Silicon Valley as technical attaché and as visiting scholar at Stanford University.

Before joining the Ministry she was, at the Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation System (Vinnova), responsible for the national incubation program, providing financing to incubators and young start-ups. At Vinnova she has also been responsible for setting up the "Strategic Innovation Programme" an initiative to create co-operation between the industry and the academia.

