

## **Mission Statement**

### **WHO WE ARE**

The Center for Philanthropy Studies (CEPS) is an institute within the University of Basel. Our Institute pursues its goals in close cooperation with other university bodies, especially the faculties.

The primary research focus of the CEPS is philanthropy in all of its different operational and organizational forms. The CEPS defines philanthropy as any private, voluntary action for the common good.

The CEPS develops activities based on the understanding that, in general, philanthropy:

- serves to further the development and stability of society,
- needs a formal structure and special management methods to accommodate its administrative and organizational requirements,
- requires interdisciplinary research.

### **WHAT WE DO**

The CEPS aspires to be the point of contact at a university level for philanthropy and foundations in Switzerland. Our focus is to facilitate the understanding of topics related to philanthropy and their impact in society.

CEPS activities generate research-based knowledge on philanthropy and foundations. Activities also include providing research services, continuing education and lectures, and consulting and information brokering. These services are intended for students, course participants, and other customers, as well as for individuals in government, business and members of the general public.

#### Generating Knowledge

- The CEPS contributes to the development of a modern understanding of philanthropy in different research areas. Through various innovative research projects, the Institute is recognized internationally as a research institution.

#### Imparting Knowledge

- The CEPS promotes philanthropy, which directly benefits foundations and other non-profit organizations, by offering lectures, continuing education, coaching and other information services.

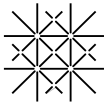
### **WHEN WORKING WE ARE**

#### Academic

- In line with the mission statement of the University of Basel, the CEPS is a university institute, which sets high standards for its own research.
- The CEPS plays an active role in the international research community through its collaboration, contributions at conferences and participation in the academic discourse.

#### Interdisciplinary

- The CEPS uses a research approach that combines theories, instruments and methods taken from a variety of research disciplines.
- Several different disciplines are taken into consideration when putting together research teams.



#### Service-oriented

- The CEPS considers itself as a service provider. It creates potential, provides customer-oriented services and works in a results-oriented manner.
- The CEPS offers high quality services aiming to meet the needs of the recipients.

#### Network-oriented

- The CEPS is a hub in a network of academic and practical experts both at home and abroad.
- Memberships in relevant research organizations contribute to the development of CEPS's competencies.

#### Communicative

- The CEPS communicates openly and transparently, both internally and externally.
- The CEPS actively takes part in discourse between academics and practitioners.

#### Independent

- The CEPS independently defines the content and goals of its activities.
- The CEPS pursues an entrepreneurial approach to funding, a large part of its capital coming from third-party monies tied to research or commissioned research, and income from continuing education programs and other services.

### **HOW WE COLLABORATE**

#### Staff

- The CEPS supports the professional development of its staff, especially young academics.
- The entire CEPS staff supports the goals of the institute with commitment and initiative.
- Staff is appreciative and supportive amongst one another.

#### Cooperative Partnerships

- The CEPS is open to cooperative endeavors and actively seeks research and practical partners for joint projects.
- The CEPS uses existing networks to exchange knowledge and experience with practitioners.

#### University of Basel

- The CEPS adheres to the mission statement and contributes to implementation of the strategic goals of the University of Basel.
- Members of the CEPS are committed to the University of Basel's self-administration.

Adopted by the CEPS at the strategy retreat held on 2.2.2012. Updated on 1.1.2014.