



## **Business Session (9 am-1 pm)**

### **1. Opening & Welcome by the Governor**

Governor Annemarie Loosli-Locher cordially welcomes Dorte Olesen, ZI director and our liaison from ZI, Fernanda Gallo Freschi - ZI Director, Ingeborg Garcia Westphal from E-Club Switzerland I - input provider, Delegates, Guests and the Board of D28. She wishes everybody a successful, informative conference and is confident that business can be conducted smoothly.

Due to the corona pandemic the conference is hold online which is a new opportunity and therefore perfectly in line with the motto of the Biennium.

The basic documents of an Online Conference have been prepared by ZI and were adopted to District 28, afterwards approved by the board.

ZI President Sharon Langenbeck has sent a message and thanks all Zontians for pursuing the goals of Zonta in these difficult times. She is looking forward to the Convention in Hamburg and it will be a pleasure for her to meet many Zontians there. Her message can be heard on our D28/DC website, too.

### **2. Presentation Club Delegates, Determination of Votes & Voting Process**

Lt. Governor Christine Dersch has checked and proved all credentials and declares the number of votes.

- The Board has 6 votes
- Clubs in Area 02 have 31 votes
- Clubs in Area 03 have 18 votes
- Clubs in Area 04 have 14 votes
- E-Clubs have 3 votes

In total 72 votes.

Governor Annemarie Loosli-Locher points out that all basic documents of the online conference were published in good time on the D28 website. In June the Call to Conference was sent out and a special attention was drawn on all these documents.

In addition all relevant information concerning the Conference and the Voting Process – reports of committees and chairs, proposals, motions, financial report and budget, presentation of the candidates with video and text – has been published on the D28 website in the “My Zonta” section. Questions that have been submitted beforehand will be answered today.

More questions can be submitted via the chat function in English, German or Italian. Kathrin Laubacher and Zelinda Legge will follow the chat and translate if necessary.



All registered delegates have received a poll link that can be used today for voting between 8 am to 2 pm (platform "Survey Monkey"). Delegates who have not received the link by now should write into the chat. It will be proved and the link will be sent to them.

### **3. Report Governor**

Governor Annemarie Loosli-Locher comments briefly on points that have been mentioned in her written report on the course of the biennium, also published on the D28 website.

#### **Area Meetings:**

Fortunately the current pandemic situation allows Area Meetings scheduled in attendance. The Governor took part in Area Meeting 02 in Mainz (10/11.09.2021). She will attend Area Meeting 04 in Winterthur (23/24.10.2021) as well as the coming Area Meeting 03. She cordially thanks all Area Directors of D28 – Kirsten, Francesca and Suzanne – and their Boards for their commitment.

#### **ZI Statements:**

Those statements address current issues and focus on the opinion Zonta has on them. All Zontians should consult the website regularly and Presidents should report on the issues at Club Meetings. If translations are made in a club, they can be submitted to the governor who will forward them to ZI.

#### **Manage you Club – online:**

ZI has created opportunities to simplify organisation processes. Payments as well as managing members' dates can be made online. Clubs should implement this procedure in order to reduce work for Headquarter, Governor and Area Directors.

Governor Annemarie Loosli-Locher then announces impulse speaker Ingeborg Garcia Westphal and welcomes her and the E-Club Switzerland I to the District conference. Ingeborg will talk about her inspiring club's projects.



#### **4. Bienvenidas!**

##### **Why do Zontians of E-Club Switzerland I speak Spanish?"**

**Input by Ingeborg Garcia Westphalen, President**

Ingeborg reports on the Swiss E-Club, whose characteristic is the Latin American origin of all members. They all speak Spanish as their mother tongue.

In their Club work they focus on two challenges:

1. Finding a way to keeping volunteers during their first year in the Club.
2. Awarding prizes that will help to empower Latin American women in their achievements.

Prominent women who have successfully submerged in Swiss society in the past serve as role models, e.g. Frida Kahlo, Maria Fernanda Espinoza and others. All potential awardees have to undergo four selection criteria concerning their professional level, their existing awards, their social commitment and their individual character. Ingeborg introduces the club's award winner Lizzy Antunez, Bolivian, who now lives in Zurich. She is the head of a gynaecological department. Her recognition is inspiring for other ladies, as it shows that even as a Latin American, it is possible to be successful in ones own profession. Certainly, this is more difficult for women than for men.

The main objective of their award "No to domestic violence in Latin America!" is to find and honour an organisation that looks to empower women through programs of prevention. Their prize winner Fundación Honra runs a program that provides psychological, social and legal support. The prize money will be used to buy special bracelets with a panic button to send messages to police and family members in case of urgency. Bracelets cost 75 USD each, they do not need internet to work, deliver exact GPS and are waterproof. Above all they look like an ornament and no one will recognize the panic button.

Ingeborg's talk was very inspiring. Many listeners thanked her in the chat for the lively and interesting presentation.

The Club's fee is 160+15 Swiss Francs a year (answer to a question from the chat).

#### **5. Reports Area Directors**

All reports are found in full length on D28 website.

##### **Area 02 Kirsten Fritsche**

The past year has been dominated by the pandemic. Despite the situation, prizes were awarded: "Amelia Earhart" (for the first time in many years) and "Young Women in Public Affairs". Two campaigns were successfully carried out: "Orange the world/your city!" and "Women in Politics!".

There was great support after the two Koblenz Zonta Clubs had asked for help due to the devastating flood.



The membership situation was the central topic of the area conference. There is a negative fluctuation of members in terms of number and age. A junior membership is about to be introduced or has already been partially established.

**Area 03 Francesca Fucaloro**

Climate change was the main topic in Area03. A collaboration with schools has been started by some clubs.

There will be an Area03 conference in Palermo on October 22-24, 2021.

**Area 04 Suzanne von Blumenthal**

Their main focus lay on the strengthening of visibility and attracting new members. These topics will be discussed on the Area conference in Winterthur on October 23-24, 2021. The answer to a question from the chat: "What are the exact numbers of increase and loss in the Areas/District?" cannot be given now and will be added to the Minute of this District Conference. As for Area02 Kirsten states there is a loss of 20 members this year and there was an increase of 20 members last year. At present Area02 has 720 members.

**Attachment:**

**Membership Situation D28**

Members:

31.05.2021	31.8.2021	Gain/Loss	Gain/Loss
1389	1293	-96	-6.91%

Members 31.8.2019: 1332

Members 31.5.2020: 1390

New Members: 31

Young Professionals: 10

Clubs: 58

Golden Z: 2



## **6. Motions and proposals of Clubs, Areas, District Proposal D28**

They are all found in full length on D28 website.

### **Proposal 1:**

#### **Increasing the Prize Money of YWPA & JMK (to strengthen attractiveness).**

Chair Odette Bellin explains: Regarding YWPA it is suggested to increase the 2nd prize to 500 € (200 € before) and the 3rd prize to 300 € instead 100 € before. As for JMK the 2nd prize should be doubled to 600 € as well as the 3rd prize to 400 €. This means an increase of 1000€ to a final sum of 3.600€ including the 1st prizes. Treasurer Doris Rutishauser comments that it can be afforded financially by the District.

A question from the chat arises: "Are there any consequences for the clubs?" Doris answers there wouldn't be any, but the prize would become more attractive to Prize winners on Club levels.

Governor and Board recommend supporting this proposal.

### **Proposal 2:**

#### **Establishing a prize award in accordance with WIT: D28 STEM AWARD**

Meike Rieken designed, together with Zontians from other districts, the STEM award to encourage women to pursue education, career, opportunities and leadership roles in technology.

Since the WIT award can only be given on an international level, the STEM award would be on District level.

A clarification was kindly asked by ZC Trier beforehand: "What is meant by '... applicant must be in school ...' ?" - The term refers to university/college. Liaison Dorte Olesen explains it also refers to PhD students/awardees.

Governor Annemarie and the Board would be happy to introduce this award in D28.

### **Proposal 3:**

#### **Donation to the ZI endowment fund**

Treasurer Doris Rutishauser explains that we had saved 19.360 € in the last year due to non-existing travel costs and meeting expenses because of the pandemic.

The District Board therefore asks the delegates of D28 to approve the following:

1. The proposed donation of USD 20'000 to the ZI endowment fund.
2. To add to the above any donations that the clubs are voluntarily willing to transfer to the District, due to cost not incurred for the District Conference.

Anita Schnetzer-Spranger once again highlights the endowment fund, which was founded in 1988. The fund should ensure a long term of income. Only capital gains can be used. From 2014 to 2020 the fund reached 5.9 million USD (including the centennial campaign). The aim is to reach 10 million USD. Her presentation "Giving Now for the Future" can be found on the D28 website.

Questions from the chat are given:

How is the money used at the moment? – Presently it is not used at all.

Can the money be transferred to other projects? - This will be determined by the International board. At any case it will be used to support women's rights.

Should the District save the money for future presence meetings? - Donating to the endowment fund does not influence the future budget which will function regularly again.

### **Motion ZC Darmstadt and ZC Bad Nauheim-Friedberg (both Area 02) “Half fees young members”**

The ZC Darmstadt and the ZC Bad Nauheim-Friedberg propose to reduce the District membership fee for young members under 30 years to 50%, i.e. from currently 18 Euro to 9 Euro per year. Two-thirds of the votes are needed for this.

## **7. Financial report and budget 2022-24 – Report auditors**

Annemarie hands over the floor to Doris Rutishauser

The Balance sheet is found on the D28 website under MyZonta/District Conference 2021. Based on the results of the examination by the auditors Carmela Buonanno, ZC Matera, and Caroline Willeke, ZC Frankfurt, everything is in good order. Many thanks to Claudia Mastrangeli who cannot be present today.

## **8. Open forum with Liaison Dorte Olesen, ZI Director**

The liaison ambassador of District28 Dorte Olesen, director ZI 2020-2022, welcomes the audience and expresses her honour and pleasure to be with us. In 1988 she was the first woman to be appointed as a full professor of mathematics in Denmark. Dorte has been a Zontian since 1992, as a member of ZC Copenhagen I. Prior to being District 13 Governor and Lt. Governor, she was active in the Scholarship Committee. She recalls three themes of Zonta International: girl's education, fight against violence against women and climate change. She also mentions the four awards, AE, JMK, YWPA and WIT, of the educational programme. She then shows slides of awardees (Sri Lanka, USA, New Zealand) and reads out the awardees' statements of honouring the prizes.

Zonta International's service projects are close to her heart. With the "Zonta says NO" campaign Zonta fights against gender based violence. The project "Let us learn Madagascar" has a high impact on women and girls. The project "Ending early child marriage" is still important. Even in the US not all states have a minimum age of marriage.

On [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org) stories of remarkable and powerful women can be read and heard “Remarkable women, powerful stories!”. Every Zontian should view out the Zonta website and inform herself about ZI's statements on women's role or climate change. Regarding the “Add your voice” membership campaign, a resolution on conducting an overall review of Zonta International, she states that the results of this survey will be reported at the Hamburg Convention in 2022. Points among others to be discussed will be a simplified framework and how to retain democratic structures and members. The membership campaign will be repeated in 2022.



**ZONTA**  
INTERNATIONAL  
DISTRICT 28  
EMPOWERING WOMEN  
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

**Minutes of the District 28 Conference**  
**Saturday, September 25, 2021**  
**9 am to 4 pm**  
**Online via Zoom**

The following campaigns and dates are to remember:

“Every member Every November” Fundraising Campaign (November)

“Zonta says No” Campaign (25 November – 10 December)

“Amelia Earhart” Celebration of life and legacy of the famed aviatrix – Donation AE fellowship fund (January 2022)

Convention in Hamburg (25 – 28 June 2022)

A question is asked via the chat:

Why does the WIT award only honour women in IT? – This award is a pilot award.

Districts are welcomed to have their own prize.

## **9. Honouring of Award Winners**

Annemarie welcomes Carolyn Huang, Laura Ballerini and Laura Pernigoni, our award/fellowship winners at ZI level. She explains her pride and is happy being able to present the certificate and the AE pin to Laura Pernigoni and the certificate to Laura Ballerini (JMK). Carolyn (YWPA) will receive her certificate by post since it had been sent to her directly by Zonta International. Congratulations to all prize winners.

## **10. Memorial of deceased Zontians**

Governor Annemarie Loosli-Locher asks for a time of remembrance and shows photos and memories of Zontians of District28 who died in the last two years.

## **11. Committee chairs provide answers to questions**

Governor Annemarie Loosli-Locher had indicated in the Call to Conference that questions could be submitted. This was not the case.

Therefore she highlights ideas taken from the reports:

*Advocacy:*

The voice of Zonta is heard through activities, campaigns and participation on an international level.

*Awards:*

Applications could be forwarded despite the difficult pandemic situation.

*Membership:*

A great challenge!

*PR/Website:*

It is an efficient platform for D28.

*Historian:*

We have to face a future challenge -> digital archive for D28.





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*Service:*

ZI provides great help for recommended projects.

*Leadership:*

W4W (Women for Women)

*Endowment strengthens the future of Zonta:*

Endowment Chair Foundation Ambassador Beate Norman presents an idea on how to improve the collection period for ZIF. She suggests to shift the period of donation for the November Campaign into September and so change the campaign's name into "Every Member Every September".

Annemarie expresses her heartfelt thanks to all Board Members who always help to strengthen projects, promote communication and share important information about Zonta.

## **12. Lunchbreak from 1 pm to 2 pm**

Annemarie closes the business section in time and invites all delegates to take their votes. She stays online during the lunch break and is available for questions.





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## **Webinars 2 pm to 3:30 pm**

### **Webinar 1**

#### **UN/CoE – what is all about and what is important to know? by Anita Schnetzer-Spranger**

Anita talks and informs among others about the history of the UN and the CoE, keyfacts to know, Generation Equality campaign, International Service Projects.

Don't hesitate to contact her for slides and information for your club:  
[schnetzer-spranger@gmx.de](mailto:schnetzer-spranger@gmx.de)

### **Webinar 2**

#### **Zonta Mentoring Initiatives – Develop and roll-out a ZONTA Mentoring program. by Meike Rieken**

Meike introduces the new Mentoring initiative “Women for women” = W4W, a district programme that allows cross-national pairings. She talks about the focus of W4W, the re-ignition of the “Godmother Concept” and what to do to become a mentor or a mentee (checklists for both sides). The setting up of the corresponding website is planned for October 30, 2021 on the District28 website.

Questions from the chat are clarified:

Will mentees have to be a Zontian?

- This has not been defined yet.

Are there special compulsory activities between mentor and mentee?

- No, they define themselves what they want to do and do not have to report to President or Club.

In case of questions please contact the D28 mentoring coordinators  
A02 Meike Rieken, A03 Elena F. Ballini, A04 Ursula Kostal:  
[W4WZontaMentoring@gmx.net](mailto:W4WZontaMentoring@gmx.net)



### **Webinar 3**

#### **Service Projects – Best practise by Dietlind Stürz (Moderation) and Zontians presenting projects**

Service Chair Dietlind Stürz ([d\\_stuerz@gmx.de](mailto:d_stuerz@gmx.de)) reports that there are many successful service projects in D28 and that only one project per area can be presented here due to time lack.

#### **Area 02 ZC Neustadt**

President Anja Fischer-Magin ([info@zonta-nw.de](mailto:info@zonta-nw.de)) tells about their project „Miteinander-füreinander“. Citizens can purchase food vouchers for restaurants that are given to single mothers, women’s houses or family with low income.

#### **Area 03 ZC Rome 1**

President Zelinda Legge ([zelindalegge@hotmail.com](mailto:zelindalegge@hotmail.com)) speaks about the online quiz game “Dr. Why”. The registration fees were used to donate to ZIF, AE Fund.

#### **Area 04 ZC Bern**

Co-president Katja Friese ([katjafriese@web.de](mailto:katjafriese@web.de)) talks about their project “Women strengthen women”, a digital marketplace “Les Ateliers”. It’s a network to introduce highly qualified migrants to the specific requirements of the Swiss labour market.

Dietlind warmly thanks all three speakers and reminds all clubs to apply for the Service Recognition Awards 2020-2022. Throughout the biennium, clubs are encouraged to keep the Zonta Service Recognition Awards in mind. The awards recognize outstanding service projects undertaken by Zonta clubs and districts which benefit women in the local community.

Dietlind also promotes sharing successful projects and visiting the "Share your story" page on the ZI website [www.zonta.org/My Zonta](http://www.zonta.org/My Zonta).



**Presentation of the results of the elections and voting**

**Proposals**



Question 1 : Do you agree with the increase of the prize money YWPA and JMK on the district level as proposed by the Districtboard?

<b>Yes:</b>	<b>65</b>	No:	1	Abstention :	1	Skipped:	2
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Question 2 : Do you agree with the proposal that District 28 give a STEM Award as proposed by the District Board?

<b>Yes:</b>	<b>65</b>	No:	1	Abstention :	1	Skipped:	2
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**Proposals**



Question 3 : Do you agree with the proposal that District 28 contribute \$20,000 to the ZI endowment fund?

<b>Yes:</b>	<b>52</b>	No:	9	Abstention :	6	Skipped:	2
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Question 4 : Do you agree with the motion of the ZC Darmstadt and the ZC Bad Nauheim-Friedberg to reduce the District membership fee for young members under 30 years to 50%, i.e. from currently 18 Euro to 9 Euro per year?

<b>Yes:</b>	<b>62</b>	No:	4	Abstention :	1	Illegal:	2
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## Proposals

Question 5 : Do you approve the financial accounting 2018 -20, thereby discharging Board?

<b>Yes:</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>No:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Abstention:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Skipped:</b>	<b>2</b>
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Question 6 : Do you approve the 2022 -24 budget?

<b>Yes:</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>No:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Abstention:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Skipped:</b>	<b>2</b>
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## Election Report Summary

	<b>Name of Candidate</b>	<b>Member of ZC</b>	<b>Votes</b>
	<b>One candidate for each position can be elected</b>		
<b>Governor</b>	Christine Dersch	Marburg	68*
	Gabriella Fumarola	Taranto	28
<b>Lt. Governor</b>	Kathrin Laubacher	Liestal	40*
<b>Treasurer</b>	Doris Rutishauser	Liestal	69*
	<b>Two candidates can be elected</b>		
	Luisa Balboni	Milano Sant'Ambrogio	46*
<b>Auditor</b>	Marlis Sommerlade Brink	Bad Soden Kronberg	52*
	Therese Rychener	Basel	35
	<b>Three candidates can be elected</b>		
	Patrizia Vola	Milano Sant'Ambrogio	56*
<b>Nominating Committee</b>	Annemarie Loosi Locher	Schaffhausen	55*
	Astrid Ingendaay	Speyer-Germersheim	47*
	Petra Lohse	Trier	43



## New District 28 Board 2022-24



Governor  
Christine Dersch



Lt. Governor  
Kahtrin Laubacher



Treasurer  
Doris Rutishuser

Area Directors:

A02 Katja Kamphans

A03 open

A04 Brigitte Berlincourt

Auditors:



Marlis  
Sommerlade  
-Brink



Luisa  
Balboni

Nominating Committee:



Patrizia  
Vola



Annemarie  
Loosli-Locher



Astrid  
Ingendaay

Christine addresses the delegates and guests and thanks them very much for the trust they have placed in her. She is looking forward to her upcoming role as Governor of the Biennium 2022-2024 and to an exciting and successful cooperation with all Zontians in District 28.

Governor Annemarie thanks all participants of the DC for joining the Conference via Zoom. She also thanks very warmly all Zontians who helped to make this a success. She congratulates the New Board 2022-2024 and asks the new elected members to stay online for a short time after the closing of the Conference.

The Saturday District 28 Conference 2021 is closed at 4 pm in time.

Secretary:

Evelyn Goubeaud

*Evelyn Goubeaud*

Governor:

Annemarie Loosli-Locher

*A. Loosli-Locher*

Lich, October 09, 2021



## **Participants District 28 Conference**

### **Clubs with one delegate**

**Area 02:** E-Club Am Taunus, Bad Bergzabern, Bad Nauheim-Friedberg, Koblenz Rhein-Mosel, Landau-Südpfalz, Marburg, Neustadt-Weinstraße, Nidda-Oberhessen, Rheingau-Rheinhessen, Seligenstadt, Speyer-Germersheim, Trier, Wetzlar, Wiesbaden / **Area 03:** Cosenza, Cremona, Istanbul, Matera, Milano S. Ambrogio, Napoli, Palermo Zyz, Palermo Triscele, Parma, Potenza, Reggio Emilia, Roma 1, Roma Capitolum, Roma Parioli 3, Taranto, Venezia, E-Club Italy / **Area 04:** Basel, Bern, Liestal, Luzern, Vaduz, Zürich, E-Club Switzerland

⇒ 37 votes

### **Clubs with two delegates**

**Area 02:** Bad Soden-Kronberg, Burg Staufenberg-Gießen, Darmstadt, Frankfurt II, Hanau, Ludwigshafen, Mainz, Saarlouis / **Area 03:** Bologna / **Area 04:** Chur, Engadina, Luzern Landschaft, Schaffhausen

⇒ 26 votes

### **Clubs with the option of two delegates that participated with one delegate**

**Area 02:** Bad Homburg, Frankfurt, Koblenz I

⇒ 3 votes

### **Board members with one vote**

Governor Annemarie Loosli Locher, Lt. Governor Christine Dersch, Treasurer Doris Rutishauser, Area Director 02 Kirsten Fritsche, Area Director 03 Francesca Fucaloro, Area Director 04 Suzanne von Blumenthal

⇒ 6 votes

### **Clubs that did not participate**

**Area 02:** Bad Vilbel-Karben, Koblenz I / **Area 03:** Bari, Barletta / **Area 04:** Bern Ursa

<b>Maximum votes → 72 votes</b>
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