



UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE

PRESS RELEASE

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A New Foundation to Support Academic Excellence

The newly established *Fondation pour l'Université de Genève* will support the development of cutting-edge research, teaching, and public service.

contact

Sophie Zimmermann

+41 22 379 42 01

Sophie.Zimmermann@unige.ch

UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE
Communication Department

24 rue du Général-Dufour
CH-1211 Geneva 4

Tel. +41 22 379 77 17

media@unige.ch
www.unige.ch

Created in March 2025, the *Fondation pour l'Université de Genève* will strengthen the impact of the University of Geneva (UNIGE) in research, education, and community engagement. This private, non-profit foundation aims to mobilise additional resources to accompany the institution's growth in fulfilling its mission, and to fund ambitious projects that exceed the limits of the University's ordinary budget.

"The creation of the *Fondation pour l'Université de Genève* marks an important milestone for our institution and its commitment to society," says Audrey Leuba, Rector of UNIGE and Chair of the Foundation Board. "UNIGE plays a fundamental role in Geneva's development. This foundation will allow us to support scientific initiatives that address today's pressing challenges more effectively and to train the talents of tomorrow. We are convinced that science is a key driver for our societies, and this foundation is a powerful tool to amplify our contribution. We are also deeply grateful to the Hans Wilsdorf Foundation for its generous support."

The *Fondation pour l'Université de Genève* aims to complement public funding through donations, legacies, and grants, to promote excellence and innovation. The Hans Wilsdorf Foundation has already made a significant commitment to support the *Fondation pour l'Université de Genève*. The ambition is for the latter to also benefit from philanthropic contributions from other sources. The foundation will invest in advanced research projects, particularly in areas crucial for the future. It will also contribute to modernising the University's equipment in order to offer a working and learning environment that meets international standards.

In a second phase, the Foundation will support teaching and community service. It will back innovative educational projects, academic exchanges, and the training of talented individuals equipped to address the complex challenges of our time. It will also encourage initiatives that strengthen the relationship between the University and society, particularly through the dissemination of knowledge and scientific culture.

The *Fondation pour l'Université de Genève* is governed by a Foundation Board chaired by the Rector of UNIGE. Its members, both internal and external, serve on a voluntary basis. The creation of the foundation is a strategic step for UNIGE.