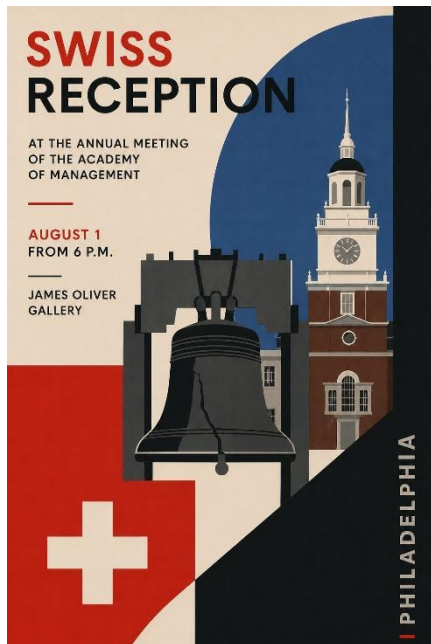




Report on the 15th Swiss Reception

Hosted at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management in Philadelphia, 2026



The Swiss Reception during the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management in Philadelphia offered a wonderful opportunity to bring colleagues together in an inspiring and relaxed setting. Organized by Dr. Roman Gibel and hosted by the UZH Professor Chairs of Lauren Howe, Jochen Menges, David Seidl and Andreas Georg Scherer at the James Oliver Art Gallery, the evening was marked by lovely interactions, engaging conversations, and the chance to strengthen connections across the Swiss academic community and beyond.

There was also a special sense of continuity to the evening. The AoM's Swiss Reception had already been held at the same venue ten years earlier, and returning to the James Oliver Art Gallery gave the gathering a genuine feeling of homecoming. Familiar surroundings, renewed encounters, and new connections created a sense of tradition while also highlighting how the community has evolved over the past decade.

The reception further reflected the broader spirit of the Academy of Management Annual Meeting. Beyond the social setting, conversations touched on current research, emerging questions in management and organization studies, ongoing projects, and opportunities for future collaboration. This exchange of ideas across institutions, disciplines, and career stages underscored the value of creating informal spaces alongside the formal conference program, where scientific dialogue can continue in a more personal and spontaneous way.



The gallery provided an especially fitting backdrop for the occasion. Guests were surrounded by the exciting works of the Unfurling250 exhibition, created in connection with the upcoming 250th anniversary of the United States. The exhibition added a distinctive cultural dimension to the reception and invited reflection on history, identity, creativity, and the many ways in which societies and institutions continue to evolve.

The timing of the reception made the evening even more meaningful: taking place on August 1, Switzerland's National Day, it brought together Swiss and American points of reference in a memorable way. Celebrating Swiss community and collegiality amid an exhibition connected to a major U.S. anniversary made for a particularly fitting setting, one characterized by inspiring art, stimulating scientific exchange, and a genuine spirit of connection.

~Roman Gibel, September, 2026



Photo Credits: Benjamin Grossmann-Hensel