

Wednesday 16 December 2015

Michel Cosnard establishes the HCERES Board, with Thierry Mandon in attendance.

On Monday 14 December 2015, Michel Cosnard established the HCERES Board, with Thierry Mandon, French Secretary of State for Higher Education and Research, in attendance.

In his address, Thierry Mandon recalled the importance of the role of HCERES and his high regard for high-quality, independent evaluation, evidence of the credibility and continuous improvement of the French higher education and research system. Strengthened by the Observatory of Science and Technologies, he said HCERES has all the tools it needs to contribute to fostering public debate around subjects related to higher education and research.

To start the day, Michel Cosnard, President of HCERES, presented the institution to the members of the Board and restated the goals on which their work will focus over the coming months:

- review the evaluation system in the context of the changes introduced by the French Act of 22 July 2013 and simplify it in line with what has already been undertaken;
- engage in dialogue with the institutions which HCERES serves, and build renewed partnerships, while continuing to demand and ensure evaluation of the highest ethical and professional standards.

Major projects for the HCERES Board in 2016 include:

- the HCERES 2016-2020 strategic plan. Michel Cosnard introduced the key points of the plan during this first meeting and it should be adopted before the summer;
- revision of the evaluation charter, the founding document for HCERES evaluation;
- development of the system for approving evaluation procedures when evaluation is carried by a body outside HCERES.

Finally, 2016 will be an important year for the international recognition of HCERES, as it will be evaluated by a committee of international experts in order to be included in the European Quality Assurance Register for higher education agencies (EQAR).

Find out more

The French High Council for Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (HCERES), created by French Act no. 2013-660 dated 22 July 2013 pertaining to higher education and research, replaced AERES on 17 November 2014. Its organisational structure and operation are governed by Decree no 2014-1365 dated 14 November 2014.

- presentation of the HCERES Board: <http://www.hceres.fr/PRESENTATION/Conseil-du-HCERES>
- transcripts of Board meetings will be published on the HCERES website.