

FINAL RESUME ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:
Ecology, Systematics and Evolution (ESE)

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE
FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND
RESEARCH BODIES:

Université Paris-Sud

AgroParisTech - Institut des sciences et industries
du vivant et de l'environnement

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique -
CNRS

EVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2018-2019
GROUP E



In the name of Hcéres¹:

Michel Cosnard, President

In the name of the experts committee²:

Paolo Cherubini, Chairman of the
committee

Under the decree No.2014-1365 dated 14 November 2014,

¹ The president of Hcéres "countersigns the evaluation reports set up by the experts committees and signed by their chairman." (Article 8, paragraph 5);

² The evaluation reports "are signed by the chairman of the experts committee". (Article 11, paragraph 2).

Tables in this document were filled with data provided by laboratories and supervising bodies in the unit's application and in the Excel files "Données du contrat en cours" and "Données du prochain contrat".

UNIT PRESENTATION

Unit name:	Ecology, Systematics and Evolution
Unit acronym:	ESE
Requested label:	UMR
Application type:	Renewal
Current number:	8079
Head of the unit (2018-2019):	Ms Jane LECOMTE
Project leader (2020-2024):	Ms Jane LECOMTE
Number of teams and/or themes:	6

EXPERTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair:	Mr Paolo CHERUBINI, WSL Swiss Federal Research Institute, Birmensdorf, Switzerland
Experts:	Ms Catherine AUBERTIN, IRD, Paris
	Ms Pascale BAUDA, University of Lorraine, Metz
	Mr Frédéric BRUNET, ENS of Lyon (supporting personnel)
	Mr Sylvain DELZON, INRA, Bordeaux (representative of CNU and CNECA)
	Mr Jean-Yves DUBUISSON, Sorbonne University, Paris
	Mr Mohamed JEBBAR, University of Brest (representative of CoNRS)
	Ms Karine MONCEAU, University of La Rochelle
	Ms Karine VAN DONINCK, University of Namur, Belgium

HCÉRES REPRESENTATIVE

Mr Christopher CARCAILLET

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUPERVISING INSTITUTIONS AND BODIES

Mr Etienne AUGE, Université Paris Sud (Paris 11)
Mr Thierry DORÉ, AgroParisTech
Ms Martine HOSSAERT, CNRS INEE

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

The research unit "Ecology, Systematics and Evolution" (ESE) was founded in 1996, originating from the "Systematics and Plant Ecology" unit, which worked from 1988 to 1995 and introduced plant ecological modelling to phytosociology. ESE has included in the field of investigations other organisms than plants, i.e., animals, fungi and microorganisms. ESE is one of the research units of the new university, Paris-Saclay University, hereafter UPSaclay, located in the southwestern area of the Ile-de-France region. ESE is part of Life-Science (75%) and Earth and Planets Sciences (15%), both Scientific Departments of UPSaclay. The research unit is composed of six teams. Most people working at ESE are hosted in two nearby buildings located at Orsay on the campus of the Faculty of Science of the current Paris-Sud University (hereafter UPSud). A research group (5 permanent staff) is located on the campus of the Faculty of Pharmacy of UPSud at Chatenay-Malabry.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Ms Jane Lecomte is the head of ESE; Ms Nathalie Frascaria and Tatiana Giraud are the deputy heads.

HCÉRES NOMENCLATURE

SVE1_2 Évolution, écologie, biologie des populations

SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

The scientific activities of ESE cover a wide range of research in ecology and evolution focusing on the origin and dynamics of biodiversity and the evolution and functioning of ecosystems. The impact of global changes on populations, communities and ecosystems, and the response to such changes are transversal themes within ESE. In situ observations, experiments, and mathematical modelling are performed in research projects conducted using multi-scale approaches, from genes to ecosystems, and a wide range of study organisms (plants, animals, fungi and microorganisms). Scientific research includes plant ecophysiology, population ecology, community ecology, conservation ecology, ecosystems ecology, ecological engineering, ecotoxicology, evolution (e.g. functional and evolutionary genetics and genomics, co-evolution, evolution and development) and the social sciences for the study of socio-ecosystem adaptation.

UNIT WORKFORCE

	Unit workforce	
	Ecology, Systematics and Evolution (ESE)	
Active staff	Number 30/06/2018	Number 01/01/2020
Full professors and similar positions	11	12
Assistant professors and similar positions	21	20
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	8	7
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	7	8
Other scientists ("Conservateurs, cadres scientifiques des EPIC, fondations, industries, etc.")	0	0

High school teachers	0	0
Supporting personnel (ITAs, BIATSSs and others, notably of EPICs)	27	27
Permanent staff	74	74
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	0	
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs	12	
PhD Students	31	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	10	
Non-permanent staff	53	
Total	127	74

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The research unit ESE is a highest-level worldwide leading centre in ecology and evolution biology. ESE has a forefront scientific production record, a very high international reputation, an extremely successful achievement of highly prestigious European, other international and national grants, notably through the "Programme d'investissement Avenir" (PIA) – for instance, the Labex "Biodiversité Agrosystème, Société, Climat" as PI - and its scientists have an active role in publishing peer-reviewed, international articles. ESE offers overall a very good intensive outreach activity, with an outstanding presence in the media contributing significantly to its national recognition and makes ESE renowned and famous in the country and worldwide. ESE is also very active in issuing patents. The unit is highly motivated and involved in teaching activities training students through research. The many students trained are stimulated in doing research by motivated supervisors, and helped in publishing their results. They highly appreciate being trained in the unit. ESE is managed in an excellent manner; the unit life and organisation are excellent. The very well and wisely developed strategy is mainly, in timely manner, aiming at linking ESE to UPSaclay, and also into the joint institute ("Fédération de Recherche") "Institut Diversité Ecologie et Evolution du Vivant" (IDEEV), in prevision of the future moving of the unit in 2022 into the near future IDEEV building. The project identifies relevant objectives such as to stimulate creativity of teams, to develop inter-team projects and to develop inter-unit partnerships in the future IDEEV. To ensure the partnership and innovative objectives, the implementation of an internal inter-team call for "risk-taking projects" and of a specific young researcher financial support are highly valued. Contact with UPSud foundation is proposed to strengthen links with the private sector and satisfy new partnership objectives. ESE seems to be a wonderful environment to do science.

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