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CRC - Centre de recherche des cordeliers

Rapport Hcéres

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REPORT ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:
Cordeliers Research Centre (CRC)

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE
FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND
RESEARCH BODIES:

Université Pierre et Marie Curie

Institut national de la santé et de la recherche
médicale - Inserm

Université Paris Descartes

Université Paris Diderot

ÉVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2017-2018
GROUP D



In the name of Hcéres¹:

Michel Cosnard, President

In the name of the expert committee²:

Alain Puisieux, 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 expert committees and signed by their chairman." (Article 8, paragraph 5);

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

This report is the sole result of the unit's evaluation by the expert committee, the composition of which is specified below. The assessments contained herein are the expression of an independent and collegial reviewing by the committee.

UNIT PRESENTATION

Unit name:	Cordeliers Research Centre
Unit acronym:	CRC
Requested label:	n/a
Application type:	Restructuration
Current number:	UMRS 1138
Head of the unit (2017-2018):	Mr Pascal FERRE
Project leader (2019-2023):	Ms Jessica ZUCMAN-ROSSI
Number of teams:	17

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair: Mr Alain PUISIEUX, CRCL, Lyon

Experts:

- Ms Florence APPARAILLY, IRBM, Montpellier
- Mr Patrick AUBERGER, C3M, Nice
- Mr Matias AVILA, University of Navarra, Spain
- Ms Mary CALLANAN, IAB, Grenoble (representative of Inserm CSS)
- Mr Ennio CARBONE, Karolinska Institute, Sweden
- Mr Jean-François COLLET, De Duve Institute, Belgium
- Ms Valérie CORONAS, Université de Poitiers (representative of CoNRS)
- Ms Laurence DUBOURG-DERAIN, CHU Lyon, (representative of CNU)
- Mr Michelangelo FOTI, University of Geneva, Switzerland
- Mr Eithan GALUN, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel
- Mr Mauro GASPARINI, Politecnico di Torino, Italia
- Ms Isabelle GODDARD, CRCL, Lyon (supporting personnel)
- Mr Philippe GUAL, C3M, Nice
- Ms Vasiliki KALATZIS, INM, Montpellier

Mr Massimo LEVRERO, CRCL, Lyon

Mr Pierre SAINTIGNY, Centre Léon Bérard, Lyon

Mr Jean-Marie SAINT-REMY, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium

Mr Jean-Daniel TISSOT, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Hcéres scientific officer:

Ms Urszula HIBNER

Representatives of supervising institutions and bodies:

Mr Raymond BAZIN, Inserm

Ms Jacqueline CAPEAU, Sorbonne Université

Ms Camille CHAUDONNERET, Inserm

Ms Christine CHOMIENNE, Inserm

Mr Jean-Luc DUMAS, Université Paris 13

Mr Alain EYCHENE, CNRS

Ms Catherine LABBE-JULLIE, Université Paris Descartes

Mr Stefano MARULLO, Université Paris Descartes

Ms Frédérique PERONNET, Sorbonne Université

Mr Stéphane ROUSSET, Sorbonne Université

Ms Sylvie ROUSSET, Université Paris Diderot

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

The Centre de Recherche des Cordeliers (CRC) is located within the Cordeliers Campus, a historical scientific site in the heart of Paris, which houses the schools of medicine of University Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris 6), and René Descartes (Paris 5). It is in close proximity to many major research institutes (Institut Curie, Institut Cochin, Collège de France) and hospitals (HEGP, Hôtel Dieu, Cochin, La Pitié Salpêtrière, Saint Louis, Garancière). It was set up in 2007, under the direction of Pr Wolf H. Fridman (director) and Pr Jean Chambaz (deputy director). After a two-year period, it was officially created in January 2009 as UMRS 972. CRC is endorsed by Inserm, University Pierre et Marie Curie, becoming University Sorbonne in 2018, as principal university partner, University Paris Descartes and University Paris Diderot. Following a positive evaluation by Hcéres, it was re-created in January 2014, with Pr Pascal Ferré as the director and Pr Guido Kroemer as deputy director. Two Inserm units will join the CRC as new teams in the frame of the 2019-2023 project: UMRS 1147, headed by Pr Pierre Laurent-Puig, currently located at the Saint-Pères Campus and UMRS 1162, headed by Pr Jessica Zucman-Rossi, currently located at Hospital Saint-Louis Campus. Finally, two other teams presently located at Institut Cochin will also join the CRC.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

In the 2019-2023 contract, the CRC will be headed by Pr Jessica Zucman-Rossi. The director will be assisted by three deputy directors: Frédéric Jaisser, Guido Kroemer and Pierre Laurent-Puig, who also will lead the 3 departments that compose the CRC. This governance will ensure the equilibrium between the three scientific departments while fostering productive synergies. Strengths of the project leader include her scientific excellence and her deep knowledge of the French scientific and administrative research organization and environment.

HCERES NOMENCLATURE

SVE2_2; SVE3_1; SVE3_4; SVE5_1; SVE5_4; SHS2_5.

SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

CRC was conceived as a pluridisciplinary institute in the field of biology and health. Since its creation, CRC has demonstrated high level expertise in physiopathology, metabolism, cell death and immunology. In the 2019-2023 contract, research on cancer biology and genomics will be significantly reinforced. Three departments will be set up on the basis of the priority scientific domains of the institute:

- Physiology, metabolism department, composed of teams involved in bacteriology, oral, ocular and renal physiopathology and metabolic diseases;
- Immunology and cancer department, composed of teams involved in cancer immunology, immunogenic cell death, therapeutic immune intervention and personalized medicine;
- Genome and Cancer department, composed of teams involved in liver physiopathology, and cancer research in hematology and solid tumors (mainly liver and colon cancers).

Overall, CRC benefits from expertise at the highest scientific level in metabolism, cancer and chronic diseases related to environmental exposure, immunology and therapy-precision medicine. Of interest, an emerging team focused on ethical issues will be hosted during the next contract.

UNIT WORKFORCE

Unit workforce	Number 30/06/2017	Number 01/01/2019
Permanent staff		
Full professors and similar positions	34	50
Assistant professors and similar positions	37	43

Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	22	25
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	30	32
Other scientists (“Conservateurs, cadres scientifiques des EPIC, fondations, industries, etc.”)	1	1
High school teachers	0	0
Supporting personnel (ITAs, BIATSSs and others, notably of EPICs)	95	111
TOTAL permanent staff	219	262
Non-permanent staff		
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	16	
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs	69	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	24	
PhD Students	103	
TOTAL non-permanent staff	212	
TOTAL unit		
	417	

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The last evaluation report (2012-2013) highlighted the scientific excellence of CRC teams in physiopathology, metabolic diseases and immunology, and encouraged the governance to attract new leaders to further increase its visibility in the international arena. Consistent with this evaluation, new teams with a strong international recognition will join the CRC in the frame of the 2019-2023 contract, reinforcing research on cancer biology and genomics. Notably, the 3 scientific departments proposed in the project, “Physiology, Metabolism”, “Immunology and Cancer” and “Genome and Cancer”, rely upon several outstanding research teams, as witnessed by the high number of publications in top level journals and by the 3 ERC grants that have been awarded to their members. CRC will thus benefit from expertise at the highest scientific level in metabolism, cancer and chronic diseases related to environmental exposure, immunology and therapy-precision medicine, paving the way for excellent basic and translational research, in strong relationship with Paris hospitals and industrial partners. The attractiveness of the Centre is attested by the recruitment of several new teams for the future contract as well as a large number of high level students and post-docs, with a strong involvement of staff members in teaching and training through research. The next contract will provide novel opportunities for strengthening interactions and synergies between the 3 departments, with the goal to make CRC a worldwide-recognized multidisciplinary research centre. In this regard, it is critical to reinforce the external communication and to ensure that the bodies underwriting the Centre (Inserm and Paris Universities) continue to be deeply engaged to support the overall aims and strategy of the Centre.

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