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CEMA - Centre d'études médiévales anglaises

Rapport Hcéres

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Research evaluation

REPORT ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:

Centre for English Medieval Studies
CEMA

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND RESEARCH BODIES:

Université Paris-Sorbonne

ÉVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2017-2018
GROUP D



In the name of Hcéres¹ :

Michel Cosnard, President

In the name of the experts committees² :

Colette Stévanovitch, Chairwoman of the committee

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

¹ The president of HCERES "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 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: Centre for English Medieval Studies

Unit acronym: CEMA

Requested label: EA

Application type: Renewal

Current number: 2557

**Head of the unit
(2017-2018):** Ms Florence BOURGNE

**Project leader
(2019-2023):** Ms Florence BOURGNE

Number of teams or themes: 1

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair: Ms Colette STEVANOVITCH, Université de Lorraine

Experts: Mr Stephen MORRISON, Université de Poitiers

Ms Anne PAGE, Aix-Marseille Université (CNU representative)

Mr Greg WALKER, University of Edinburgh

HCERES scientific officer:

Ms Emma BELL

Representatives of supervising institutions and bodies:

Mr Pascal AQUIEN, Université Paris-Sorbonne

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

The CEMA was founded in 1972 as a research unit of Paris IV-Sorbonne University. Its mail address is 1 rue Victor Cousin, 75230 Paris Cedex 5. Its library is located in room G323 of the UFR d'Études anglophones at the above address. Its office (shared with four other research units) is located 28 rue Serpente (room D420).

MANAGEMENT TEAM

The present head of the CEMA has been Ms Florence BOURGNE since November 1st 2016. The previous head was Leo Carruthers, who held this position during most of the period under review. The deputy head is Tatjana Silec.

HCERES NOMENCLATURE

SHS5_2 Littératures et langues étrangères, civilisations, cultures et langues régionales.

SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

The CEMA's scientific domain is medieval English studies. The unit's main project during the period under review is the translation into French of the texts of a Middle English manuscript.

UNIT WORKFORCE

Unit workforce	Number 30/06/2017	Number 01/01/2019
Permanent staff		
Full professors and similar positions	1	1
Assistant professors and similar positions	3	3
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	0	0
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	0	0
Other scientists ("Conservateurs, cadres scientifiques des EPIC, fondations, industries, etc.")	1	1
High school teachers	2	2
Supporting personnel (ITAs, BIATSSs and others, notably of EPICs)	0	0
TOTAL permanent staff	7	7

Non-permanent staff		
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	2	
Non-permanent full-time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs	0	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	0	
PhD Students	3	
TOTAL non-permanent staff	5	
TOTAL unit	12	

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The CEMA is a small research unit of five full members, of whom three work in Paris-Sorbonne University. It is the only French research unit exclusively dedicated to medieval English studies. Despite its small size, it shows considerable dynamism, and plays an important strategic role in sustaining and developing Medieval English studies (and medieval studies more generally) in France. Former students of the unit have gone on to take up major posts in universities across France, and the recruitment of current and future doctoral students pays due regard to the requirements and opportunities provided by the employment situation in the French University sector.

The unit's current members publish on a regular basis in reputable journals, though not in leading international ones, and have completed a major collaborative online translation project. The unit's conferences are attractive to international researchers. However, given its limited funding, based on the number of full members from Paris-Sorbonne University, the unit should seek to apply for external research grants on a more regular basis in order to expand its range of activities. The unit's projects of a digital library of medieval England and of inscribed objects have the potential to produce essential databases, but the corpora should be clearly limited given the size of the unit and in the absence of dedicated IT personnel. With only one full professor, the unit is doing very satisfactorily as far as PhDs and HDRs are concerned.

The unit's regular meetings are one of the CEMA's assets. The monthly meetings associate scientific work and friendly togetherness. The unit should make it a priority to aim at increased collaboration with other units, though an effort has been made in this respect since the previous assessment.

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