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DN - Dynamique du noyau

Rapport Hcéres

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REPORT ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:
Nuclear Dynamics (ND)

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE
FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND
RESEARCH BODIES:

Institut Curie

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique -
CNRS

Université Pierre et Marie Curie

ÉVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2017-2018
GROUP D



In the name of Hcéres¹:

Michel Cosnard, President

In the name of the expert committee²:

Vincent Geli, 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:	Nuclear Dynamics
Unit acronym:	ND
Requested label:	UMR
Application type:	Renewal
Current number:	UMR 3664
Head of the unit (2017-2018):	Ms Angela TADDEI
Project leader (2019-2023):	Ms Angela TADDEI
Number of teams:	5

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair:	Mr Vincent GELI, CRCM Marseille
Experts:	Ms Michèle LIEB, Université de Strasbourg, Illkirch (supporting personnel) Mr Antoine PETERS, Friedrich Miescher Institute, Switzerland Mr Benjamin PRUD'HOMME, Aix-Marseille Université Mr François SPITZ, Institute Pasteur Paris Ms Marie VANDROMME, Université Toulouse (representative of CoNRS) Mr Gijs WUITE, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands
HCERES scientific officer:	Mr Hinrich GRONEMEYER
Representatives of supervising institutions and bodies:	Ms Geneviève ALMOUZI, Institut Curie Mr Frédéric BOCCARD, CNRS Mr Alain CHEDOTAL, UPMC Ms Aline HUBER, CNRS Ms Tatiana MALHERBE, Institut Curie

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

The unit of Nuclear Dynamics (UMR 3664) is a mixed unit with three supervising institutions: Institute Curie, CNRS and the Université Pierre et Marie Curie. The UMR 3664 is hosted by the Institute Curie which comprises 12 mixed research units. The UMR 3664 is located in the Pasteur building within the Campus of the Curie Institute. This research unit was created in 2014 as a continuation of the UMR 218 entitled Nuclear Dynamics and Genome Plasticity created in 2000. Initially, it encompassed 5 research teams including 2 senior teams and 3 junior teams with in 2016 a total of 48.35 FTP people. In 2013, one junior team was promoted as senior team. In 2016, the unit was reorganized with the departure of 2 junior teams which were compensated by the arrival of two other junior teams focussing the scientific topics of the UMR 3664.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Currently, Ms Angela TADDEI directs the UMR 3664 with the assistance of Ms Nathalie DOSTATNI as deputy director. Ms Geneviève ALMOUZNI acted as a director until September 2015 with the assistance of Ms Angela TADDEI as deputy director. Ms Angela TADDEI took the direction of the unit in September 2015.

HCERES NOMENCLATURE

SVE2_2; SVE2_3.

SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

Scientific activities at the UMR 3664 are part of the Institute Curie domain 2: "Development, cancer, genetics and epigenetics". The UMR 3664 is a relatively small multidisciplinary unit with a strong focus on chromatin organization and dynamics. The research topics range from epigenetic plasticity, nuclear compartmentalisation, and dynamics in the nucleus to responses to environmental cues during cell division and development. Recently, new topics emerged with the arrival of new teams, including unconventional models of chromosome segregation and spatial and temporal regulation of transcription.

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	1	1
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	3	3
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	6	6
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)	12.10	14.2

TOTAL permanent staff	23.10	26
Non-permanent staff		
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	1	
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs	11	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	7.25	
PhD Students	6	
TOTAL non-permanent staff	25.25	
TOTAL unit	48.35	

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

Over the time-period, the output of this unit is excellent; the average impact of the papers exceeds the standards of the Curie Institute. The excellent publication level has maintained the high international visibility of the unit and has contributed to the attractiveness for the recruitment of new young teams and the establishment of international collaborations mainly with academic laboratories. However, while the unit has managed to publish in journals with high impact factors maintaining a steady output of high-level publications, the scientific production varied from team to team.

The unit has an outstanding involvement in national and international training activities and its public outreach is impressive given the relatively small size of this unit.

The research program is excellent with several exciting and cutting-edge projects. On a general level, the research programs aim to address important and timely questions about the role of chromatin dynamics and 3D organisation of the nucleus in a broad range of biological processes. The research programs also integrate methodological developments at the cutting edge of technology supported by the facilities of the IC and new interdisciplinary engagement to resolve the biological questions. The committee also appreciates that the unit develops new translational research programs, although these programs belong essentially to one team.

During the time period of the evaluation, the unit was reorganized with the departure of 2 junior teams that were compensated by the arrival of two other junior teams. This has reinforced the scientific coherence of the unit and imports exciting complementary approaches and expertise. The high turnover of teams in the unit, however, has also impacted on the life of the unit. While there is recruitment of new talents, there has been loss of expertise.

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