

:: NeuroAlpine Network launch ::

The point of view of the doctoral schools

Olivier Koenig

Professor of Cognitive Science, University Lyon 2

Director of the International Doctoral College, Université de Lyon

Plan

- “Université de Lyon”.
- International College of the “Université de Lyon”.
- Neuroscience in doctoral schools in the Rhône-Alpes area.
- Recommendations in adequation with those from the Council for doctoral Education of the EUA.
- Conclusion : Doctoral schools in Neuroscience in the Rhône-Alpes area and in the NeuroAlpine Network.

Université de Lyon

- “Université de Lyon” : PRES (“Pôle de Recherche et d’Enseignement Supérieur”) :
 - ▶ Consortium of universities, engineers schools and “Grandes Ecoles” (today : 19 institutions of the Lyon and Saint-Etienne area and more than 120 000 students).
 - ▶ A consortium with a single name to increase international visibility of research activities and to increase the attractiveness of teaching programs.
 - ▶ A consortium aimed to develop a concerted political position in terms of research and teaching.

International Doctoral College

“Collège Doctoral International, Université de Lyon”

- CDI : One of the most important projects of the “Université de Lyon”.
- 17 doctoral schools (all fields) -- about 5 000 doctoral students.
- Aim :
 - ▶ To develop an information system to collect and maintain all relevant data about doctoral students and their research in conjunction with doctoral programs and institutes.
 - ▶ To manage the allocation of research grants to all doctoral schools.
 - ▶ To collect and provide information about possibilities to fund theses.
 - ▶ To participate in educational management of the doctoral schools.
 - ▶ To develop international partnerships.

A service for doctors

“Service Insertion des Docteurs, Université de Lyon”

- Main aims :
 - ▶ To facilitate professional integration of doctors in the socio-economical world.
 - ▶ To offer doctoral students training programs (e.g., soft skills).
 - ▶ To raise awareness among doctors for entrepreneurship.
 - ▶ To collect and centralize information concerning the employment of doctors.

Neuroscience in doctoral schools of the Rhône-Alpes area

- Lyon :
 - ▶ ED 476 : Neuroscience and Cognition (University Lyon 1 and University Lyon 2) -- Director : François Jourdan :
 - ✓ Disciplines : Neuroscience, Natural Cognition, Cognitive Psychology, Neuroimaging, Neurophysiology, Functional Neurobiology, Neuropharmacology, Clinical Neuroscience.
 - ✓ About 150 doctoral students.
 - ✓ 15 research laboratories.

Neuroscience in doctoral schools of the Rhône-Alpes area

- Grenoble - Chambéry :

- ▶ Doctoral Schools :

- ✓ ED 218 : Chemistry and Life Sciences (Chimie et Sciences du Vivant) -- Université Joseph Fourier Grenoble I -- Director : Serge Perez.

- ✓ ED 216 : Engineering for Health, Cognition, and Environment (Ingénierie pour la Santé, la Cognition, l'Environnement) -- Université Joseph Fourier Grenoble I, Université Pierre Mendès France Grenoble 2, Institut National Polytechnique de Grenoble -- Director : Pierre Baconnier.

- ▶ Most Neuroscience laboratories are part of the Grenoble Institute of Neuroscience -- 10 laboratories (Head : Claude Feuerstein).

- ▶ GIPSA-lab : "Laboratoire grenoblois de l'image, de la parole, du signal et de l'informatique" (INPG, UJF, Université Grenoble 3, CNRS).

- ▶ Laboratory of Psychology and Neurocognition (UPMF, CNRS).

Neuroscience in doctoral schools of the Rhône-Alpes area

- Saint-Etienne :
 - ▶ Doctoral School : ED 488 “Science, Engineering, Health” (Science, Ingénierie, Santé) -- Université Jean Monnet et Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Mines -- Director : Alain Vautrin.
 - ▶ 15 laboratories, among which :
 - ✓ “Laboratoire de Physiologie et Physiopathologie de l’Exercice et du Handicap”
- Almost all the labs in the field of Neuroscience and Neuro-Cognition of the Grenoble, Chambéry, Lyon and Saint-Etienne areas are part of the Research Cluster I I : “Handicap, Aging, Neurosciences” of the “Rhône-Alpes Region” (Scientific leader : Claude Feuerstein).

Recommendations

in adequation with recommendations of the EUA-CDE

- EUA : European University Association.
- CDE : Council for Doctoral Education of the EUA.
- CDE was launched in Lausanne in June 2008.
 - ▶ CDE is a platform for European universities to discuss, develop and implement good practices in doctoral education leading to high level research and training and enhancing attractiveness and competitiveness of universities.
 - ▶ CDE will represent European university sector at global fora on changing nature of doctoral education worldwide.

Recommendations

in adequation with recommendations of the EUA-CDE

- A priority for universities : Internationalisation and Mobility
 - ▶ Supporting mobility at doctoral level as part of the institutional strategies : joint programmes, co-tutelles, European doctorates, trans-sectorial mobility.
 - ▶ Increasing the internationalisation within universities through recruiting more international staff and organizing international events.
 - ▶ Encouraging interdisciplinarity and promoting innovative structures to boost creativity, original research projects and to develop excellence.
 - ▶ Recognizing mobility as an added value for career development.
 - ▶ Using new technologies (e-learning, teleconferences...) to enhance communication between universities.

Recommendations

in adequation with recommendations of the EUA-CDE

- A training that meets new challenges
 - ▶ Universities as institutions need to assume responsibility for ensuring that the research training they offer meets new challenges and include appropriate professional career development opportunities.
- Structuration of doctoral education
 - ▶ To achieve critical mass, which ensures a high quality scientific environment of strong research groups :
 - ✓ e.g., by developing national or transnational doctoral schools, programmes and networks.
- Money
 - ▶ To ensure appropriate and sustainable funding of both quality doctoral programmes and doctoral candidates.
 - ✓ Threat : the salary of doctoral candidate may differ from country to country...

NeuroAlpine Network :

An opportunity for Doctoral Schools in Neurosciences

- Developing joint programmes.
- Developing co-tutelles.
- Developing research collaborations.
- Organizing scientific events (with academic & industry partners).
- Increasing critical mass to enhance quality of research and education.
- Increasing visibility of research work and doctoral students
 - ▶ which offers wider job opportunities after the thesis.

Thank you for your attention