

## Building beyond borders: British universities invited to join the University of Paris Seine International Campus

**Cergy, February 14, 2017** – At a time when Brexit brings uncertainty over the academic relations between British higher education institutions and their European partners, the Community of Universities and Establishments (ComUE) of the University Paris Seine today launches a call for expression of interest to British universities. The invitation offers the opportunity for higher education institutions in the UK to participate in the establishment of the future University of Paris Seine International Campus within the framework of an academic and scientific partnership.

The call for expression of interest launched today by the University of Paris Seine is addressed to British institutions of higher education and research, private or public, which would like to establish themselves in France.

*“British universities today seek to preserve the relations built with their partners in Europe. It is for this reason that we have chosen to act very concretely in order to offer them the possibility to pursue their development alongside us.”* explains Jean-Michel Blanquer, Dean and President of ESSEC Business School.

Located 35 minutes from Paris and Roissy-Charles de Gaulle airport, close to the Vexin natural reserve and the lakes of Ile de France, Cergy-Pontoise is home to 15 academic institutions, 35,000 students and 600 teachers and researchers.

*“Together with local and regional authorities, the University of Paris Seine is developing an international campus on the banks of the Oise, which will offer exceptional working and living conditions for research, education and the development of partnerships with economic players.”* highlights Anne Sophie Barthez, President of the University of Paris Seine.

With this call for expression of interest, the University of Paris Seine proposes to reserve exceptional facilities and services for British universities on the site of the future international campus: the objective will be to develop high level research and teaching activities. Interested institutions are invited to submit proposals for partnership with research institutions and the economic stakeholders based in the Cergy-Pointoise area.

*“Higher education can and must be an extraordinary ground for experimentation in order to develop the future of the relationship between the United Kingdom and the European continent, a relationship built on openness, respect and trust.”* states François Germinet, President of the University of Cergy-Pontoise

This call for expression of interest is supported by the Ile-de-France Region, the Val d'Oise Department and the Cergy-Pontoise Agglomeration Community. Open to British universities, this offer may, at a later date, be extended to higher education institutions in other European countries.

Institutions have until July 14 to express their interest and a phase of exchange on the submitted projects will then open. The objective is to disclose the names of the institutions selected at the beginning of 2018.

To access the call for expressions of interest:

[http://www.universiteparisseine.fr/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Callforproposals\\_BuildBeyondBorders.pdf](http://www.universiteparisseine.fr/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Callforproposals_BuildBeyondBorders.pdf)

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**About the University of Paris Seine ComUE:**

The University of Paris Seine ComUE is a network of excellence. Bringing together 15 higher education institutions, this group enables its members to collaborate, to gather, to create and to decompartmentalise. In other words, to do together what they would not be able to do by themselves. The ComUE represents essential leverage and visibility for its community in terms of academic training, research, student life, professional integration and international and socio-economic partnerships. Its community is composed of 37,000 students, 2,700 teacher-researchers and 2,000 administrative staff members.

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**About ESSEC Business School**

ESSEC, founded in 1907, is one of the world's top management schools. With 5,330 students; a faculty comprised of 158 full-time professors, 19 of which are emeritus professors, in France and Singapore, recognized for both the quality and influence of their research; a wide range of management training programs; partnerships with the world's best universities; and a network of 47,000 alumni, ESSEC continues to foster a tradition of academic excellence and a spirit of openness in the fields of economics, social sciences and innovation. In 2005, ESSEC opened a campus in Asia. ESSEC's operations in Asia Pacific, strategically located in Singapore, present the perfect foothold for ESSEC to be part of the vibrant growth of Asia and to bring its expertise to the expanding region. For any additional information, please visit [www.essec.edu](http://www.essec.edu) or [www.essec.edu/asia](http://www.essec.edu/asia).

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**About the University of Cergy-Pontoise:**

Created in 1991, the University of Cergy-Pontoise – UCP – is a university located in the Paris area. The UCP is an attractive centre of teaching and research which hosts international students interested in studying in France for a semester, an academic year or a longer stay in order to obtain a degree. Multidisciplinary, it is composed of 8 faculties and schools: science and technology; law; economics and management; human and social science; modern languages and international studies; political studies; the university institute of technology; and the school of education. Key figures in 2017: 18,500 students; 80,000 graduates; over 2,300 foreign students; 100 masters' degrees; classed to the world top 3% (Times higher Education, Quacquarelli Symonds); 22 research laboratories (9 associated to the CNRS); about 500 PhD students; 6 technology platforms; 458 agreements with 305 partnerships with 54 countries in Europe, Australia, Canada, China, India, Japan, Korea, Russia as well as several African and South American countries. [www.u-cergy.fr](http://www.u-cergy.fr)

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