Workshop 3
Facilitating Mutual Credit and Degree Recognition

Subject: This workshop will be held on March 7 from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm and will be introduced by the panelists, who will each have 10 minutes to share their views on the subject and the resources to be implemented. The chairs will lead the discussion with the participants in order to come up with proposals for deliverables.

Chairs: Jean-Luc Clément (MENESR) and Melanie Gottlieb (AACRAO)
Panelists: Claudia Gellini (ENIC-NARIC), Arnaud Raynouard (Université Paris-Dauphine), Roger Brindley (APLU)
Rapporteur: Christel Outreman (Embassy of France)

Questions that will be addressed during the debate
- What level of equivalence is possible between our grading systems? How can grades from US high schools be recognized so that students can register in French universities?
- How can we move towards mutual recognition of university credits? How can we make the programs offered by US universities implanted in France more compatible with French university programs?
- How can we reproduce the success story of the mutual recognition of the diplôme d’ingénieur and the Master of Engineering?
- At what level of study, could co-diplomas be offered (PhD, Masters)?
- Can French higher education institutions be approved by the U.S. authorities in order to enroll American students receiving financial aid?
- Specific case of mobility within business schools.

Deliverables
- Preparation of a chart with grade equivalencies, including converting from a letter scale to a number scale and vice-versa.
- Preparation of a document comparing the two higher education systems (simple bilingual guide with bibliography).
- Presentation of the procedure to join the list of foreign universities participating in the federal student aid programs maintained by the Department of Education, that allows American students to obtain their degree in France, while still receiving their federal student aid. Encourage French institutions to take the necessary steps to join this list.
- Revision of AACRAO’s recommendations for French programs in EDGE, especially business school programs.
- Analysis of European ECTS and American credits in order to establish equivalence.
- Creation of a French-American working group to help universities match European and American credits in order to encourage symmetrical exchanges between universities (one for one).