



Science Policy, Research and Higher Education

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Science Policy

A good and up-to-date knowledge of the policies adopted for Science and Technology, by the various US actors is crucial, to design the appropriate cooperation strategies. The administration and the federal agencies, the federated States, the public or private universities, the big companies, are among the many actors who shape the landscape of the research in the USA.

Student, researcher, and businessperson exchanges play a fundamental role in scientific cooperation. They constitute a base through which collaborations and long-lasting bilateral research partnerships can begin.

Priorities in Research and Higher Education

The thematic priorities are:

Promoting and supporting exchanges by students, researchers, and businesspeople

University cooperation is developed by the Office of Science and Technology in conjunction the Cultural Office, with the common goal of encouraging intercontinental education and training.

Strengthening our presence

Scholastic and research exchanges are the principal elements in scientific coordination. The Chateaubriand Fellowships, recognized for their excellence, are especially important.

The institutions who already have relationships with France (MIT, Berkeley, Stanford et Chicago) play an important role in scientific cooperation. The success of calls for proposals should allow us to capitalize this teamwork to create a strong follow-through.

French-American doctoral network

The creation of a French-American doctoral network is a step that should allow us to complete, on the doctoral level, a plan parallel to what was created with FACE, as the masters level. This subject was discussed at the meeting of research organizations, and is considered an important tool for facilitating exchanges for research projects.

A first meeting of the consortium of American universities took place December 14, 2006, in the presence of the National Science Foundation (NSF), who agreed to follow the project. The participating American universities have been: Urbana-Champaign, Georgia Tech, Florida -Gainesville, Houston, UT Austin,

Northwestern, Wisconsin - Madison, and the University of California System.

Presence for French scientists in the United States

Creating organizations that bring together French scientists in the US has been an important priority for creating relationships and helping identify middlemen. These groups, such as the "French Researchers and Students of Greater Washington" and the "French Scientists of the Houston Region," are a focal point for us in our scientific watch and promotion of French higher education.

The first meeting of greater Washington was held December 13, 2006, in the presence of several research organizations, from the CPU to MENESR.

Up to this point, help for scientists returning to France has happened because of the organization of Forum USA. Since February 2007 this forum has brought a European dimension through the "European Career Fair" at MIT, where the space for European science and technology welcome nearly 50 presenters from 8 different countries in February 2007.

Examples of Actions and Activities

- Bilateral cooperation agreement in science and technology
- University agreements (UPenn/Paris Tech, University of Illinois Chicago/INSA de Toulouse, South Dakota State University/INP de Toulouse, et cetera)
- Chateaubriand Fellowships
- Help for French scientists returning to France

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Contacts

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