

Press Kit

Université de Paris

Official founding of the Université de Paris

Resulting from the merger of Paris Descartes and Paris Diderot Universities and the incorporation of the Institut Physique du Globe de Paris (IPGP), the Université de Paris was officially founded on 20 March 2019 by publication of a decree in France's Official Journal.

One year after earning the "Initiative of Excellence" label, the Université de Paris is the fruit of a joint effort between its founding institutions. It is transforming the higher education landscape in Paris.

Paris Diderot and Paris Descartes Universities will continue to exist until 31 December 2019. During this transition period, the organisations will gradually merge. This will particularly impact administrative aspects, where the groundwork is already being laid in anticipation of the upcoming changes. The new institution's first major action will be to establish its governance. Gilles Pécout, Chief Education Officer for the Academy of Paris and University Chancellor, has assigned this mission to Françoise Moulin-Civil, who will be the acting Administrator until a president is elected.

Strong visual identity

The Université de Paris also has a visual identity – a symbolic interpretation of the institution and its values. First and foremost, it is a university offering everything the name implies: openness, public service, transmission; an inquisitive and critical spirit, not to mention Paris, the capital of France, a global metropolis and France's leading, internationally attractive university city. More than a logo, this visual identity has become the emblem of the academic and student communities that now form the Université de Paris.

An internationally renowned intensive research university

The Université de Paris covers a wide range of disciplines, with one of the most comprehensive and ambitious educational offerings available in the world. The objectives of this "intensive research" university, which place it among the most prestigious institutions of higher education in France and abroad, include the conduct of top-level research compliant with a code of ethics, world-class higher education courses, a dynamic student life, support for innovation and knowledge transfer; construction of a European research and training hub.

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Présentation

The Université de Paris is a public university which accepts all of the teaching and research missions it has been assigned. It comprises three major faculties – the Faculty of Health, the Faculty of Sciences and the Faculty of Societies and Humanities – as well as the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris, which will continue to fulfil its national missions. The governing bodies of the Université de Paris will soon be elected by members of the community, namely teacher-researchers, administrative and technical staff, and students.

One belief, many challenges

The Université de Paris was founded on the belief that higher education and research must help society as we navigate profound changes affecting our relationship to knowledge, our ability to build society, and our rapport with others and ourselves, while promoting sustainable development.

The Université de Paris offers solutions to cope with these modern-day challenges:

- By developing top-level research and courses that are directly connected to global issues and players, with a specific ambition at the European scale;
- By proposing new methods of collaboration with national research organisations and the network of Paris public hospitals (AP-HP) to develop consistent and efficient strategies;
- By innovating in the broad sense of the term, through knowledge transfer, technology, training, interdisciplinarity and interfaces;
- By promoting science that is not only dedicated to serving society but also developed in tandem with local players.

Values

Our ambition at the Université de Paris is to build a common destiny and a unique academic community by developing strong values:

- **Freedom of thought in terms of studying**, teaching and conducting research, resulting in the development of curiosity, creativity and a critical spirit. This is the founding value of all academic activity.
- **Serving society and the common good**: the university must actively contribute to solving major worldwide issues. Our research strategy places special emphasis on interdisciplinary projects. Our education strategy is designed to prepare students for enriching and relevant professional and personal pathways in today's context of rapidly evolving societies and occupations.
- **Openness toward the world, the city and the university's immediate surroundings**: while striving to achieve international excellence, the university constantly seeks to build lasting ties with its local surroundings. Nourishing our relationships with local and regional authorities and the city of Paris, we offer the tremendous advantage of a campus in the heart of the city. We encourage our staff to work for and with their immediate surroundings and to see Europe as an exceptional environment in which to develop their activities.
- **Respect and promote the well-being of each individual** within the human community embodied by the university. This is attained through strong commitment to social dialogue, to enhancing quality of life in the workplace, to combating discrimination in general and fighting for gender equality in particular.
- **Scientific integrity**: in an era where science is a source of both considerable hope and strong distrust, the Université de Paris needs to irreproachably advocate rigorous, honest and transparent scientific practices. This commitment is an integral part of our institution, materialised by an ethical committee for scientific integrity, which is included in the university statutes.

Université de Paris key figures

With 58,000 students, 7,500 staff members and 142 laboratories, the Université de Paris embodies Paris as a modern city that is open to the world, youth and knowledge.

STAFF

- 4,500 teacher-researchers;
- 3,000 administrative and technical staff;
- 20 percent of staff from INSERM (French national institute for health and medical research).

STUDENTS

- 58,000 students;
- 22 graduate schools;
- 8 percent of doctorate degrees earned in France.

SCIENTIFIC REACH

- 142 research laboratories;
- Leading French university in terms of citation rate per article;
- 53rd place in the Shanghai Academic Ranking of World Universities (forecast);
- 10 percent of scientific articles published in France.

PATRIMONY

- 500,000 square metres of real estate property;
- 35 university buildings.

Creation of the visual identity of the Université de Paris :

A symbol that simply makes sense!

The visual identity of the Université de Paris was developed through a cooperative approach involving all university players in the creation of the brand. This joint effort was led by the publicity agency Graphéine in close collaboration with the founding institutions' respective communications departments.

Four creative workshops took place between June and July 2018 in which participants reflected on the values of the project, the university's symbolic vision and the image of the Paris and its immediate surroundings. These workshops were organised by turns with the founding institution heads, teacher-researchers, administrative and technical staff, students, alumni and social-economic and scientific partners.

At the same time, a questionnaire on the main themes was distributed to all staff and students from the three institutions. 2,000 responses were received and analysed and contributed to the conceptual and creative task of defining the visual identity of the Université de Paris.

By skilfully combining the letter "U" with a stylised representation of the Eiffel Tower and the Seine River in an appropriate graphical style, Graphéine created an emblem which so effectively symbolises the Université de Paris that it doesn't need a caption to be understood. This factor is crucial when it comes to creating an identity with a global standing.

The logo's main colours are burgundy and black.

Sources of graphic inspiration

A typically Parisian Didone style.

The Didone typeface genre is characterised by straight serifs and narrow vertical strokes. Combined with French-style typography, Didone types were very widely used in France from 1810 until the 1950s for official forms and textbooks. The style remains a synonym of quality and rigour to this day.

Varsity Letter

A varsity letter is an award earned in the United States for school-related achievement. It is a token of recognition, stability and modernity. While the varsity letter originated in the United States, it has become a part of academia's conceptual world around the planet.

Eiffel Tower

This internationally recognised emblem of Paris represents French elegance. It was by far the number one response to the questionnaire entitled "How do you envision the Université de Paris?"

The Seine River

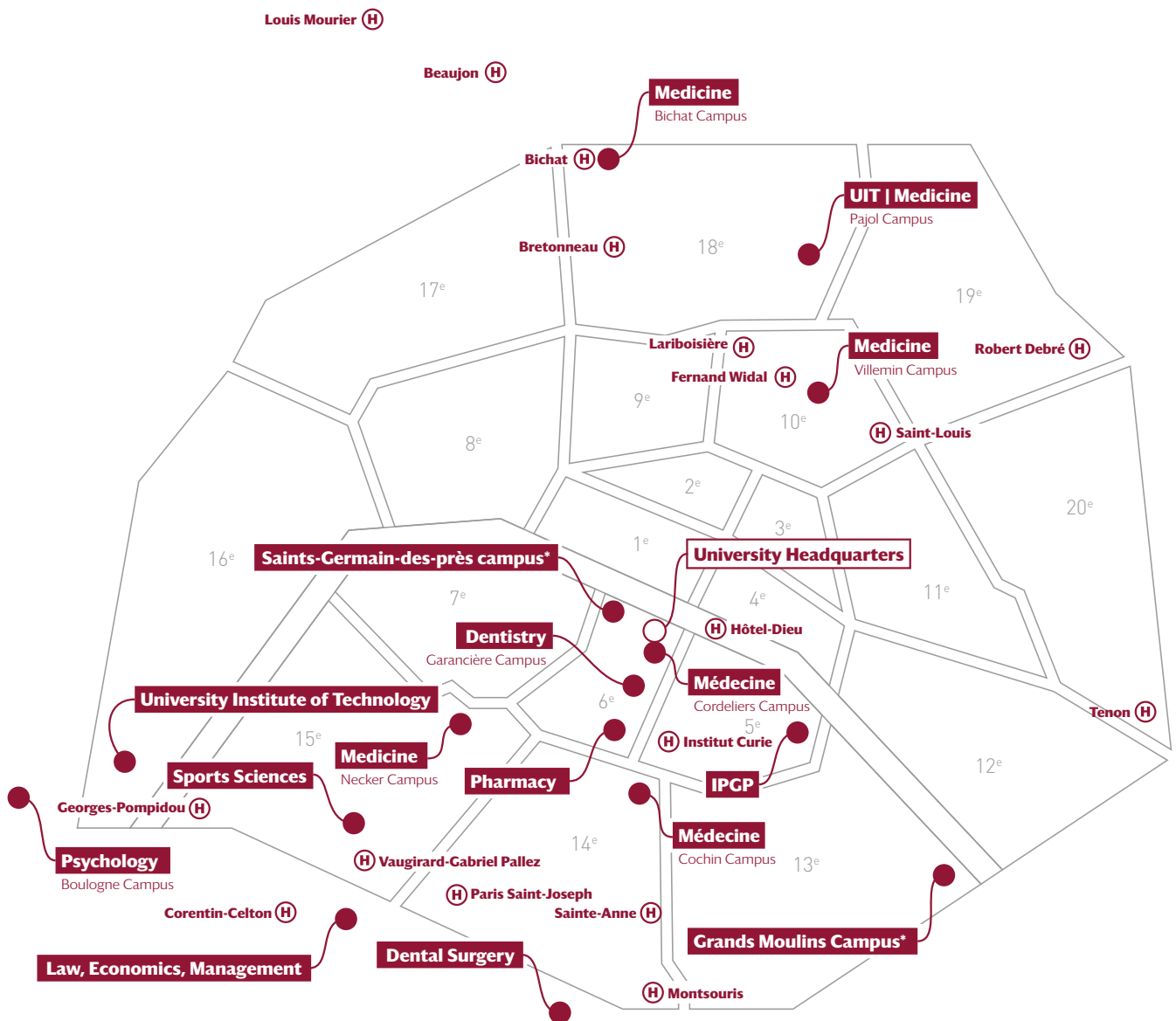
This vital artery of the capital is a geographic point of reference which runs along several campuses of the Université de Paris, incarnating the city's gracefulness and vitality.



A university in the heart of a global city

Where history and modernity meet

Spanning some twenty campuses and research facilities, the Université de Paris boasts an exceptional real estate patrimony covering a total surface area of nearly 500,000 square metres, chiefly located within Paris and its inner suburban periphery. Blending history and modernity, the Université de Paris includes the prestigious heritage of Paris Descartes University with the more contemporary architecture of Paris Diderot, which is perfectly integrated into its urban environment.



*pluridisciplinary campus

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