

Press release

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Setting up cooperation dynamics in agrbiosciences

Agreenium presents its activity report for its first year in existence. The goal of the public cooperation institution is to implement education, research and innovation projects sponsored by its members. In 2015, it focused on developing international partnerships and launching the digital university in the field of agrbiosciences*.

Setting up the governance and organisation

Created by the Law of October 2014 on the future of agriculture, the Institute's organisation was specified in a Decree dated 30 March 2015. It assembles the skills and expertise of fourteen higher agricultural education establishments and four research bodies.

Its Director, Claude Bernhard, explains. "The priorities were to arrange elections to set up the Board of Directors, recruit a team to boost the resources transferred by Agreenium and install it in new premises at the Paris headquarters".

At its first meeting on 25 November 2015, the Board of Directors named Marion Guillou as Chairperson and Bernard Vallat as Vice-Chairman.

Make French expertise more visible internationally

The Institute has the mission of encouraging the legibility of the higher education and research system internationally, by supporting the setting up of projects. For example, a partnership was entered into in June 2015 to support the creation of the University Ussein in Senegal.

With a budget of €1.7M, the project will involve more than 600 d/h of Institute members until 2020.

The Institute members wished to pool their training courses in the form of a specific digital university.

The Institute has therefore joined the national platform for French higher education MOOC and is setting up a university specifically for the areas of interest of its members:

Montpellier SupAgro ran an agroecology MOOC between September and November 2015. This is one of the success stories of the FUN-MOOC platform, with its 12,200 registered participants from 98 countries. Another dozen MOOC are in production.

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