PSI-IAS Fellowships

Fellows-in-Residence Program
@The Institute for Advanced Studies - Paris Seine Initiative

Program description
1. Aim and scope of the program

The Paris Seine Initiative for Excellence invites applications from high-level international scholars and scientists in all fields, for up to 10 research fellowships. The call for application is open to promising young scholars as well as leading senior researchers, wishing to carry out original individual research projects.

The program is hosted by the Paris Seine - Institute for Advanced Studies. Fellows from all disciplines will take part in the Institute’s interdisciplinary exchange program. The Paris Seine Initiative / Institute for Advanced Studies (PSI-IAS) Fellowship program offers a multidisciplinary research environment and creates an opportunity for researchers to develop original research ideas, to apply their knowledge and skills to new domains and to develop cross-disciplinary inspiration and initiatives.

For the development of their research projects, fellows will be jointly hosted in one of the research centers of the Paris Seine Initiative where they will be able to create contacts, exchange knowledge and collaborate with researchers from various fields in one of Paris Seine’s academic institutions.

2. Academic environment

a. The Paris Seine Initiative

The Paris Seine Initiative is an academic consortium selected by the French government as one of the 19 French Universities of Excellence. It gathers the university of Cergy-Pontoise (UCP), ESSEC Business School, and two engineering schools, EISTI and ENSEA. These four institutions have joined forces under an ambitious project, with the objective to boost their research potential and international attractiveness, to reach the top 200 of world research universities within ten years.

- **UCP** is a multidisciplinary, mid-sized French université created in 1991. Though recently created, it has already gained significant recognition for the quality of its research and innovation. It is ranked in the top 250 of the THE Young Universities ranking, in the world top 200 in Mathematics and top 300 in Economics (ARWU). It also runs two national centers of excellence in the fields of Modeling sciences (economics, mathematics, physics, computer science and finance) and Material heritage restoration and conservation (experimental science and humanities);
- **ESSEC** is one of the world’s leading Business Schools. ESSEC is ranked in the world top 200 in Management and top 150 in Finance (ARWU);
- **EISTI** and **ENSEA** are two engineering schools specialized in data science, computer science and electronics.

Supported by a grant from Paris Seine Initiative, the PSI-IAS Fellowship Program aims at developing lasting research collaborations between the Paris Seine research community and the international scientific community.

b. The Institute of Advanced Studies

The IAS supports ambitious research projects in all fields (modeling sciences, experimental sciences, social sciences, humanities). It encourages the emergence of innovative and transdisciplinary projects at the crossroads between major disciplines, through the organization of international scientific events and its international researchers visiting program.

To carry out its missions, the IAS develops in collaboration with the Paris Seine academic community and research centers:
• a program of scientific events including expertise conferences, international congresses, thematic semesters (through which a case study is being approached by transdisciplinary research), guest lectures being delivered by IAS visitors addressing an multidisciplinary academic audience
• a program of visiting professors from all disciplines, hosted from several weeks to months

Each year, some seventy scientists are invited and some about scientific events are organized.

PSI-IAS Fellows will be jointly hosted by the IAS and the research centers relevant to the conduct of their research project. At the IAS, they will be offered office space and access to conference facilities. They may also take advantage of the housing possibilities offered by the institute.

PSI-IAS Fellows commit to a regular participation in the scientific activities of the IAS, including the IAS seminars.

The IAS is a member of the UBIAS (University-Based Institutes for Advanced Studies) network.

c. Paris Seine research areas and research centers

Research at Paris Seine can be grouped into four main scientific areas:

• Modeling and Formal Sciences
• Natural Sciences and Engineering
• Economics, Business, Law and Politics
• Humanities, Art and Education

They cover all academic disciplines with the exception of medicine.

The academic community of the Paris Seine Initiative is structured into 25 research centers. Nine of these centers are cooperated with the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS). The attached table provides an overview of the fields of specialization of the research centers.

Transversal research, involving several research groups jointly addressing crosscutting topics is also stimulated through several institutes. This includes in the first place three transversal research groups:

• The MME-DII Center of Excellence gathers researchers in Mathematics, Economics, Physics and Computer Science to develop innovative models of uncertainty, interactions and dynamics, for applications to economics, finance and social sciences in general.
• The Fondation des Sciences du Patrimoine (Foundation for Material Heritage Science) gathers researchers from the fields of arts, humanities and experimental sciences in the study, preservation and restoration of cultural material heritage, in partnership with leading national and international partners from the third-sector, in the sector of art and culture
• A third transversal research group focuses on the issue of risk and security and gathers researchers in data and computer science, experimental sciences, social sciences and external experts in the fields of forensics, criminology and security.
The Paris Seine research community also offers high-quality research facilities and cutting-edge equipment that are often required by research projects in various disciplines.

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1 UCP operates five main technological platforms: PATRIMEX (laser platform for the analysis of material for cultural heritage), PeptLab (molecular diagnosis), COSMETOMICS (characterization and analysis of cosmetic substances), TechEduLab (digital technologies for education), Smart Embedded Systems (digital technologies in health-care, with ENSEA). It plays a leading role in the large European infrastructure E-RHIS. ESSEC operates an Experimental Laboratory.
PSI-IAS Fellows are expected to develop collaboration with the research groups of the Paris Seine Initiative, in relationship with their research projects. Before the submission of their application, they are strongly encouraged to establish contacts with the heads of research groups that align best with their research proposal.

A detailed presentation of the research environment offered at Paris Seine can be found on the ‘research’ pages of each institution’s website:

- For UCP: [https://www.u-cergy.fr/en/research.html](https://www.u-cergy.fr/en/research.html)
- For EISTI: [https://eisti.fr/fr/la-recherche](https://eisti.fr/fr/la-recherche)
- For ENSEA: see ETIS research center (above)

### 3. Eligibility conditions and terms of appointment

#### Eligibility conditions

The PSI-IAS Fellowship Program encompasses two types of fellowships:

- Junior fellowships: for researchers with 2 to 9 years of full time post-doctoral research experience, with or without a permanent position in a university or research institution.
- Senior fellowships: for researchers with 10+ years full time post-doctoral research experience.

The PSI-IAS Fellowship Program supports researchers from all countries and all disciplinary backgrounds. While there is no restriction on nationality, appropriate permission to work in France is required before taking up the Fellowship.

#### Duration

Junior fellowships are awarded for a duration of one year and may be renewed for one additional year.

Senior fellowships are awarded for a duration of 4 to 10 months.

#### Compensation

PSI-IAS fellows who maintain their status in their home institution might benefit from a stipend. Fellows will otherwise be offered a fixed duration research contract with salary.

In all cases, the remuneration depends on the fellow’s personal and professional situation and on whether they continue to receive pay from their home institution. The benchmark pay scale corresponds to prevailing standards in French academia.

The minimum compensation paid to fellows is equal to 2500€ net per month. The maximum compensation is equal to 4500€ net per month.

#### Travel and research expenses

PSI-IAS Fellows will also receive:

for economics, psychology and behavioral science. Université Paris Seine is also a member of several national technological platforms Robotex (in the field of robotics), the Synchrotron Soleil, ATTOLAB (rapid electronic dynamic), Vedecom (carbon-free vehicles).
• Travel costs of up to 1,000€ (including visa fees)
• Research, support and training costs of up to 3,000€.

4. Application and selection process

a. Timeline
• Call opening: November 2018
• Deadline for applications: March 5th 2019.
• Evaluations: March-April 2019
• Notifications: April 2019
• Start of the fellowships: September 2019

b. Contacts
• Applicants are strongly advised to contact prospective host research centers using contact details provided each research center’s web page, which can be accessed through the links in the above table.
• General enquiries can be addressed at: aap-excellence-scientifique@universiteparis13.fr.

c. Application process
All applications must be submitted online through a dedicated web application portal.
The details of the application procedure and online submission will be available from 17/12/2018 at: https://apply.theparis13einitiative.org

The complete application will include the following documents:

1. A completed application form (available on the scheme webpage).
2. A CV (maximum 4 pages, in English) for the proposed Fellow highlighting any publications, activities or achievements that are especially relevant to this application.
3. A detailed research proposal (25 000 characters maximum, spaces included, bibliography not included). The proposal should include: theme, state of the art in the field, innovative character of the proposal, methodology or theoretical framework, expected outcomes, work planning, timescales, existing or planned scientific cooperation and contacts in France, bibliography (books and articles cited).
4. A letter of cooperation signed by a member of University Paris-Seine. The planned collaborations may include the organization of conferences and series of lectures or the preparation of a research project to be submitted to an international funding agency (e.g. ERC, H2020);
5. In the case of Junior Fellows, two letters of recommendation from French or international researchers.

d. Selection
Proposals will be reviewed by a scientific committee comprising representatives of the IAS, University Paris Seine and external reviewers. The criteria taken into account in the assessment are:
• The scientific quality and innovative character of the project
• The potential for collaboration with researchers of the Paris Seine Initiative
• The expertise of the applicant