

FINAL RESUME ON THE RESEARCH UNIT: RESTORE

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND RESEARCH BODIES:

Centre national de la recherche scientifique –
CNRS

École nationale vétérinaire de Toulouse – ENVT

Institut national de la santé et de la recherche
médicale – Inserm

Université Toulouse 3 - Paul Sabatier - UPS

EVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2019-2020 GROUP A



In the name of Hcéres¹:

Nelly Dupin, Acting
President

In the name of the experts committee²:

Fabienne Foufelle, Chairwoman of the
committee

Under the decree No.2014-1365 dated 14 November 2014,

¹ The president of Hcéres "countersigns the evaluation reports set up by the experts committees and signed by their chairman." (Article 8, paragraph 5);

² The evaluation reports "are signed by the chairman of the experts committee". (Article 11, paragraph 2).

Tables in this document were filled with data submitted by the supervising body on behalf the unit.

UNIT PRESENTATION

Unit name:	RESTORE
Unit acronym:	RESTORE
Current label and N°:	ERL5311 / USR3505 / UMR152 / UMR1048
ID RNSR:	
Application type:	Renewal / Restructuration / de novo creation
Head of the unit (2019-2020):	Mr Louis CASTELLA (STROMALAB) – Mr Bernard DUCOMMUN (ITAV)
Project leader (2021-2025):	Mr Philippe VALET
Number of teams and/or themes:	4

EXPERTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair:	Ms Fabienne FOUFELLE, CRC Jussieu
Experts:	Mr Francesco DAZZI, Imperial College London, United Kingdom
	Ms Bérengère FROMY, CNRS Lyon (representative of CoNRS)
	Mr Jacques GROBER, Agrosup Dijon (representative of CNU)
	Ms Lavanya PREMVARDHAN, Institut Curie (supporting personnel)
	Mr Xavier PRIEUR, Inserm Nantes (representative of Inserm CSS)
	Mr Tim SCHULZ, German Institute of Human Nutrition Potsdam-Rehbrücke, Germany

HCÉRES REPRESENTATIVE

Ms Urszula HIBNER

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUPERVISING INSTITUTIONS AND BODIES

Ms Armelle BARELLI, Inserm
 Mr Raymond BAZIN, Inserm
 Mr Yvan DE LAUNOIT, CNRS
 Mr Christophe GIRAUD, CNRS
 Ms Nicole HAGEN-PICARD, ENV
 Mr Alexis VALENTIN, Université Paul Sabatier

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

RESTORE is a research unit applying to be created *de novo* under the impulse of Inserm, CNRS and Université Paul Sabatier-Toulouse 3 and with a strong support of the Occitanie region. RESTORE will be established on the Langlade Campus, which already includes the Oncopole with the Cancer Research Center of Toulouse (CRCT), the University Cancer Clinical Centre (IUCT-O) and the Pierre Fabre pharmaceutical company. The site is projected to become Toulouse's main biomedical research campus in the coming years. The RESTORE project results from the merge of four laboratories, two which are already present on the Langlade site (the Stromalab, headed by L. CASTELLA, and the Institute of Advanced Technologies for the Study of Life (ITAV), led by B. DUCOMMUN and V. LOBJOIS) and two teams, Adipolab (head P. VALET) and MRN2I (head A. COSTE), respectively located at the Institute of Metabolic and Cardiovascular Diseases (I2MC) and Pharmadev at the Rangueil site. These teams plan to settle on the site in 2020.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

In the 2021-2025 contract, the RESTORE unit will be headed by Philippe VALET. He will be assisted by two deputy directors: Béatrice COUSIN and Valérie LOBJOIS.

HCÉRES NOMENCLATURE

SVE5_1 Physiologie, endocrinologie, physiopathologie.

THEMATICS

The aim of RESTORE is to study the early phase of aging with the expectation to identify early biomarkers or targets in order to reverse it. In particular the project concerns the impact of ageing-related changes on stroma, inflammation and metabolism.

UNIT WORKFORCE

RESTORE		
Active staff	Number 06/30/2019	Number 01/01/2021
Full professors and similar positions		16
Assistant professors and similar positions		17
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions		2
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions		10
Other scientists ("Conservateurs, cadres scientifiques des EPIC, fondations, industries, etc.")		0
High school teachers		0
Supporting personnel (ITAs, BIATSSs and others, notably of EPICs)		25
Permanent staff		70
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus		
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs (except PhD students)		

PhD Students		
Non-permanent supporting personnel		
Non-permanent staff		
Total		70

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The RESTORE unit brings together four teams with an acknowledged expertise in their respective fields. The incoming teams originate from different locations in Toulouse. All the future projects are built around the mechanisms of the early stages of ageing. They are highly innovative, ambitious and in perfect coherence with the priorities defined by the University of Toulouse and regional authorities. One positive outcome of this favorable local environment is that RESTORE will profit from very strong interactions with the Toulouse Gerontopole, notably through the access to human cohorts of the regional-funded INSPIRE platform and the presence of in-house platforms with cutting edge technologies.

In order to carry out the project centered on the impact on ageing of the processes of inflammation, metabolism and alterations of the regenerative capacity due to alterations of stem cell function, the composition of the teams that join the unit has been profoundly reorganized. This is expected to give rise to synergistic added values of combining different expertise in the field. It also represents a possible threat of loss of efficiency if the human resources are not carefully managed.

Importantly, the project will profit from a strong involvement of pluridisciplinary partner teams, including mathematicians, physicists, chemists and experts in informatics, who will be involved in a major effort of modeling the ageing process. Although this very ambitious long-term project needs additional work to better define its specific aims and procedures, it provides an overarching framework for the unit's research proposal.

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