

FINAL SUMMARY OF THE EVALUATION ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:

Institut des Sciences Cognitives Marc Jeannerod
(ISC-MJ)

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND RESEARCH BODIES:

Centre national de la recherche scientifique –
CNRS

Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1 - UCBL

EVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2019-2020 GROUP A

Report published on September, 18 2020



In the name of Hcéres¹:

Nelly Dupin, Acting President

In the name of the experts committee²:

Rony Paz, Chairman 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: Institut des Sciences Cognitives Marc Jeannerod

Unit acronym: ISC-MJ

Current label and N°: UMR 5229

ID RNSR: 200711896E

Application type: Renewal

Head of the unit (2019-2020): Ms Angela SIRIGU

Project leader (2021-2025): Mr Pier Francesco FERRARI

Number of teams and/or themes: 9 teams and 1 theme

EXPERTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair:

Mr Rony PAZ, Weizmann institute of Science, Israel

Ms Maud CHAMPAGNE-LAVAU, CNRS, Aix-en-Provence

Mr Frédéric CHAVANE, CNRS, Marseille (representative of CoNRS)

Ms Ghislaine DEHAENE, CNRS, Gif-sur-Yvette

Experts:

Ms Kathy DUJARDIN, Université de Lille, Lille

Ms Sylvie GRANON, Université Paris-Sud, Orsay (representative of CNU)

Ms Julie GULLSTRAND, CNRS, Marseille (supporting personnel)

Mr Ron STOOP, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Mr Wim VANDUFFEL, KU Leuven, Belgium

HCÉRES REPRESENTATIVE

Ms Céline SOUCHAY

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUPERVISING BODIES

Mr Bernard POULAIN, CNRS

Mr Jean-François MORNEX, Université de Lyon

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

The "Institut des Sciences Cognitives Marc Jeannerod" (ISC-MJ, UMR-5229) is a CNRS and University of Lyon (UCBL, Lyon 1) research facility. It is located in Bron, and was headed by Jean-René DUHAMEL until December 2015. In January 2016, Angela SIRIGU became the Director. Under her leadership the Institute performed basic and clinical research of cognition at all levels, from animal models to humans, and has wide and deep range of expertise, techniques and scientific questions.

As of January 2021, Pier Francesco FERRARI will be the new Director. The ISC will gain space in their current building due to the recent move of another lab. Therefore the building will host a single research unit composed by the research groups belonging to the UMR5229 (by the decision of the CNRS and University of Lyon to reinstate an Institute devoted to advance knowledge on the human mind and its neural bases).

Currently the Unit is primarily affiliated to the Institute of Biology (INSB) of CNRS and secondarily to the University of Lyon. We note that the current director (A. SIRIGU) has filed an application for a secondary CNRS affiliation to the National Institute of Human Science (InSHS).

Management team

From January 2016 until 2021, Angela SIRIGU was the director. As of January 2021, Pier Francesco Ferrari will be the new director.

HCÉRES NOMENCLATURE

SVE4 Neurosciences

THEMATICS

The Unit aims to understand human cognition, its development, and the underlying neural mechanisms that give rise to it. The unit explores the neural circuits that underlie social interactions, decision making and reward-based decisions, and how malfunction of these circuits can result in neurodegenerative disorders (mainly Parkinson Disease) and a wide range of psychiatric and developmental conditions, such as autism, schizophrenia, mood-disorders and more.

UNIT WORKFORCE

Institut des Sciences Cognitives Marc Jeannerod		
Active staff	Number 06/30/2019	Number 01/01/2021
Full professors and similar positions	14	15
Assistant professors and similar positions	5	7
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	7	8
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	7	8
Other scientists ("Conservateurs, cadres scientifiques des EPIC, fondations, industries, etc.")	0	4
High school teachers	0	0
Supporting personnel (ITAs, BIATSSs and others, notably of EPICs)	11	14

Permanent staff	44	56
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	7	
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs (except PhD students)	26	
PhD Students	40	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	13	
Non-permanent staff	86	
Total	130	56

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The Institute is an internationally-renowned center of cognitive and neural sciences, with several leaders in the field of human cognition but also neural processes and computations that underlie cognition and complex behaviors. It also includes several teams with expertise in neurodegenerative and neuropsychiatric diseases, from basic research all the way to clinical implications. The different teams span a wide array of approaches, techniques, and focus of interest. Overall, individual team leaders are also considered leaders in their field, with the right mix of younger scientists still at the stage of development into leaders, together with well established scientists. The mixture of focus and interests between the teams provides enough differentiation that allows independent expertise, but there is also reasonable overlap that allows transfer of expertise and information across teams. The committee considers the Institute to be a leading center in cognition and neural processes of complex behaviors.

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