

REPORT ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:
Cibles Thérapeutiques et Conception de
Médicaments

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE
FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND
RESEARCH BODIES:

Université Paris Descartes

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique -
CNRS

ÉVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2017-2018
GROUP D



In the name of Hcéres¹:

Michel Cosnard, President

In the name of the expert committee²:

Adriaan IJzerman, 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 expert committees and signed by their chairman." (Article 8, paragraph 5);

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

This report is the sole result of the unit's evaluation by the expert committee, the composition of which is specified below. The assessments contained herein are the expression of an independent and collegial reviewing by the committee.

UNIT PRESENTATION

Unit name:	Cibles Thérapeutiques et Conception de Médicaments
Unit acronym:	CiTCoM
Requested label:	UMR + ERL
Application type:	Restructuration
Current numbers:	UMR 8015 and UMR 8638
Head of the units (2017-2018):	Mr Nicolas LEULLIOT and Mr Olivier LAPREVOTE
Project leader (2019-2023):	Mr Nicolas LEULLIOT
Number of teams:	7

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair:	Mr Adriaan IJZERMAN, Leiden University, Netherlands
Experts:	Ms Martine CADENE, CNRS, Orléans Mr Karl GADEMANN, University of Zurich, Switzerland Mr Hervé KOVACIC, Université d'Aix-Marseille (representative of CNU) Mr Sylvain LACLEF, Université de Picardie (supporting personnel) Mr Roland MARQUET, Université de Strasbourg (representative of CoNRS) Ms Christa MUELLER, Universität Bonn, Germany Ms Eva PEBAY-PEYROULA, Université Grenoble Alpes Ms Natacha ROCHEL, Université de Strasbourg Mr Didier ROGNAN, Université de Strasbourg (representative of CoNRS)
HCERES scientific officer:	Mr Georges MASSIOT
Representatives of supervising institutions and bodies:	Mr Jean Louis BEAUDEUX, Université Paris Descartes Mr Erick DUFOURC, CNRS Ms Karine GIOVANNANGELI, Inserm

Ms Christine GUILLARD, Inserm

Mr Hughes LORTAT JACOB, CNRS

Mr Stephano MARULLO, Université Paris Descartes

Mr Marius RÉGLIER, CNRS

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

The future laboratory results from the merging of two well-established laboratories from University René Descartes: the “Laboratoire de Cristallographie et RMN Biologiques” (LCRB) and the “Chimie Organique, Médicinale et Extractive et Toxicologie Expérimentale” unit (COMETE) both associated with the CNRS, INSB and INC, respectively. These laboratories are located on the premises of the Faculty of Pharmacy, “rue de l’Observatoire”, in part in renovated areas but mostly in premises that would require renovation.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

The unit will be directed by Mr Nicolas LEULLIOT (Paris Descartes), with Ms Isabelle BROUTIN and Mr Philippe BELMONT as deputy directors.

HCERES NOMENCLATURE

SVE2-1; ST4-1; ST4-3; ST4-4.

SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

The old laboratories and the new unit have expertise in, and will focus on, integral aspects of the drug discovery process, including chemistry (natural products, synthetic and medicinal chemistry, analytical chemistry including metabolomics), computational approaches (molecular modelling), biology (biochemistry, structural biology), pharmacology (mechanisms of (inter)action, pharmacokinetics), drug delivery (biopharmaceutics, formulation), and toxicology.

UNIT WORKFORCE

Unit workforce	Number 30/06/2017	Number 01/01/2019
Permanent staff		
Full professors and similar positions	11	11
Assistant professors and similar positions	34.6	32.6
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	4	5
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	5.9	7.9
Other scientists (“Conservateurs, cadres scientifiques des EPIC, fondations, industries, etc.”)	1	1
High school teachers	0	0
Supporting personnel (ITAs, BIATSSs and others, notably of EPICs)	18.5	17.5
TOTAL permanent staff	75	75
Non-permanent staff		
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	5	

Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs	7	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	1	
PhD Students	21	
TOTAL non-permanent staff	34	
TOTAL unit	109	

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The proposed unit aims to become a high-performing research department covering most of the drug discovery pipeline. The integration process may be the first step in a further restructuring of the Paris Descartes Faculty of Pharmacy's research into two more research departments. If successful, it will surely improve the visibility of the research performed in this section of the School of Pharmacy and may help in attracting young talent from elsewhere as well as additional funding, from both public and private partners. The seven teams involved in the project are complementary, constitute a good mix of fundamental and applied science, and are well positioned to develop strongly supportive technology platforms and core facilities for researchers in- and outside of the unit. On the average, they all have a very good scientific production, with some items of excellence. All PIs have national visibility and a few of them are internationally known. They are able to collect money from national agencies and charities and their training of students is very good. Our discussions with the PIs of the new research department were informative and inspiring, providing credit to a true desire of turning the new unit into a success. At this early stage there are no joint research outcomes yet; therefore, the committee can only conclude that the department's ambition and objectives are well defined and provide a clear path forward for the 2019-2023 term. In view of the anticipated development of additional core facilities, the infrastructure of the new unit needs further attention.

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