

**PRESS RELEASE**

Paris-Saclay, 5 November 2020

**The Initiative of Excellence label definitively awarded  
to Paris-Saclay University**

**The international IdEx jury (*Initiative d'Excellence*), which has supported the founding members of Paris-Saclay University since 2012, has rewarded the university for its new institutional model, in place since January 2020. The label will act as a new springboard for Paris-Saclay, helping to boost awareness of French higher education and research internationally.**

The label awarded today marks the beginning of a new chapter for the institution and the university's development.

*"We are of course delighted by this new recognition. With this decision, the IdEx jury has affirmed the strength of the new model that we have built with Paris-Saclay University's four Grande  coles: AgroParisTech, CentraleSup elec, ENS Paris-Saclay and the Institut d'Optique Graduate School, with IHES, and alongside the two associate institutions, Universit  d'Evry and UVSQ, which will merge by 2025 as part of a strengthened partnership with the six national research organisations that accompany us: CEA, CNRS, INRAE, Inria, Inserm and ONERA. This label will act as a new source of leverage in securing our position internationally, alongside the other previously labelled IdEx institutions and our colleagues at Universit  PSL who were also awarded the label today,"* said Sylvie Retailleau, President of Paris-Saclay University.

*"We are highly grateful to the members of the IdEx jury who have supported us for the past eight years, helping us to transition towards a model that is both accessible and robust internationally, while remaining attentive to the specificities of French higher education,"* she added.

Paris-Saclay University can now rally its energy and resources in accompanying its students and supporting the university's research.

The agenda for the coming weeks includes the elections for our Graduate Schools, which now coordinate the Master's, Doctoral programmes and common research policy, and for Paris-Saclay Undergraduate School, which coordinates a large proportion of undergraduate degrees.

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**ABOUT PARIS-SACLAY UNIVERSITY**

*Paris-Saclay University brings together ten constituent faculties and institutions, four Grandes  coles, the Institut des Hautes Etudes Scientifiques, two associate institutions and shared laboratories with national research organisations.*

*With 48,000 students, 8,100 lecturers and 8,500 administrative and technical staff members, Paris-Saclay offers a comprehensive and varied range of undergraduate to doctorate-level programmes and engineering degrees, renowned for their quality thanks to the reputation and commitment of the university's academic staff.*

*Located in the south of Paris on vast sites that stretch across Paris, Orsay, Evry and Versailles, Paris-Saclay University benefits from a strategic geographical and socioeconomic position that is strengthened by its*

international visibility. A leading university, Paris-Saclay is recognised for its excellent Mathematics and Physics programmes but also for Biological and Medical Sciences, Agriculture, Engineering, and its extensive Humanities and Social Sciences courses. Close to Paris, Paris-Saclay University is nestled in a rich natural area, at the very heart of a dynamic economic hub.



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