

iPSRS AMB-meeting

14/03/2024 at UEF

Participants :

- Matthieu Roussey (UEF)
- Nathalie Destouches (UJM)
- Amine Nait-Ali (UPEC)
- Aurore Simonnet (UJM)
- Noora Heikkilä (UEF)
- Olga Rancova (VU)
- Augustas Vaitkevičius (VU)

After visiting the « Nanocomp » an iPSRS Industrial Partner, the AMB gathered on the following agenda :

1°) Attractiveness scholarships:

The academic year 2024-2025 will be a special one, being the last of the PSRS Master (2019-25) and waiting for a possible funding, starting on 2024, if the proposal submitted last february by the iPSRS Consortium is successful.

EACEA new programme rule reminder:

For a programme period, counting 5 cohorts (6 years), a total of 60 students granted a standard EMJM scholarships can be enrolled.

Additionally, there is a new financial instrument for external action, that would provide with up to 2 IPA III scholarships for candidates from the Western Balkans region, and up to 18 NDICI scholarships for candidates from targeted as defined by the 2024 Erasmus+ Programme Guide.

No more than 6 scholarships from the entire programme to students from the same country.

IPA III countries:

Iceland-North Macedonia-Norway -Serbia Turkey. Liechtenstein

NDICI countries:

Western Balkans (Région 1) : Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Monténégro

Neighbourhood East (Région 2) : Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bélarus, Georgia, Moldova, Territory of Ukraine as recognised by international law

South-Mediterranean countries (Région 3) : Algeria, Egypt, Israël, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia

Russian Fédération (Région 4) : Territory of Russia as recognised by international law

Asia (Région 5): a) Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, DPR Korea, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Népal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam

b) High income countries and territories : Brunei, Hong Kong, Japan, Republic of Korea, Macao, Singapore and Taiwan

Central Asia (Région 6): Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkménistan, Uzbekistan

Middle East (Région 7):a) Iran, Iraq, Yemen b) High income countries: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates

Pacific (Région 8): a) Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu b) High income countries: Australia, New Zealand

Sub-Saharan Africa (Région 9): Angola, Bénin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Congo - Démocratie Republic of the, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali,

Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sénégal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Latin America (Région 10): Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela

Caribbean (Région 11): Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago

Région 12 US and Canada United States of America, Canada

The following third countries not associated to the Programme are not covered by the External Action Instruments:

Région 13 : Andorra, Monaco, San Marino, Vatican City State

Région 14 : Faroe Islands, Switzerland, United Kingdom

iPSRS Scholarship Strategy

The iPSRS Consortium wish to attract more excellent students and to do so, wish to offer attractive scholarships.

*For 2024-2026 whether the iPSRS Consortium is funded or not:

UJM and UPEC, within the programme PSRS, have secured funding to offer up to 8, 22 000 € scholarships in 2024 (for the M1 and M2 Academic years), to maintain the master attractiveness compared to other EMJMD or EMJM programme during the transition year.

*If the iPSRS Consortium gets the Eacea Funding:

Some EMJM scholarships will be delivered starting in September 2024.

The iPSRS strategy about the NDICI scholarships is to attract and offer: 6 additional scholarships to students from targeted region 9, 4 (or 5) additional scholarships to students from region 5, 4 to 5 additional scholarships to students from region 10 and the remaining scholarships to students coming from regions 3, 6, 7 or 8 (1 max per region).

2. iPSRS Competitiveness

To remain attractive and competitive and be able to offer 8 additional scholarship every year, in addition to the EMJM Scholarships, the Consortium will look for other funding sources, especially through the iPSRS industrial associated partners, but also public funding (from the state or the EU) and other partners (Chapak, Eiffel, Manutech-Sleight and BRMIE Scholarships).

iPSRS Consortium agrees that a better communication, advertising about research and students results, improving the collaboration with industrial and academic partners is the key to ensure more attractiveness and success to the master programme.

In addition, the iPSRS Consortium plans to enhance its communication towards students with disabilities, to let them know that the Erasmus+ programme is open and supportive of their special needs. Ideally, 2 students with disabilities could be enrolled in each edition.

3. iPSRS Organisation : How things will work if funded by the Erasmus + Programme

- The main innovation for the new iPSRS is the implementation of Mentor for students, mainly dedicated in helping them with their carriers.

-All the learning outcomes has been redefined, and will come with KPI's to ensure that they are achieved by students. They can be found on the iPSRS website : <https://www.master-photonics4security.eu/>

- The iPSRS will organize some workshops to develop student skills and reach the learning outcomes:

In the first semester, at UJM, a 1 week workshop is planned to be set at the end of November: large seminars, practical sessions, rapid project to challenge students – companies visit

- The iPSRS Consortium will work like in the previous project with an academic management board and quality Assurance Board and also a new External Advisory Board consisting of 5 Industrial associated partners, and the iPSRS Consortium coordinators)

- The iPSRS Consortium plans to hire a Project Coordinator whose role will mainly be: business development, communication and promotion, finding funding, collecting information related to the KPI's.

iPSRS Selection meeting

Intake 2024-2026 on 14/03/2024

Participants :

- Matthieu Roussey (UEF)
- Nathalie Destouches (UJM)
- Amine Nait-Ali (UPEC)
- Aurore Simonnet (UJM)
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1/ Selection process and criteria

Reminder of the general selection process and criteria

The selection criteria are detailed online on the PSRS website, section “Apply” page “Application assessment and appeal procedure”. Criteria are rated on a scale of 0 to 5, where 5=Excellent and 0=Insufficient, except for English language proficiency, evaluated via various tests complying with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

Problems with applications and recommendation procedure

The authentication of degrees, transcripts, and letters of recommendation is not easy and has often put doubts on certain candidates.

There is a system by which candidates would provide contacts of referees in their applications, and once they had applied, the referees would then receive an email from our application platform requesting them to answer a few short questions online.

Unfortunately, there were again some difficulties with the platform this year and we were very tolerant of late letters of recommendation, and wrote to referees to request recommendations for students missing them. We continued to receive and accept recommendations and other documents beyond the official deadline, but only for applications that had been duly deposited by the deadline of February 6th.

2/ Data on the population of candidates for the 2024-2026 cohort

This year we received 165 applications, up from 155 valid applications in 2023, among which we count 20 % of women. Still a lot of applications for Students from Bangladesh and Pakistan.

3/ Selection Results

Each case was reviewed individually. All criteria and information were considered, with focus above all on 3 considerations:

- minimum level to perform well enough in curricula (i.e. no major gaps, often a factor of difficulties and loss of motivation among students in prior cohorts),
- maturity and motivations (for the program and learning mobility),
- potential for concentration track specialisation.

Applications having received interviews were discussed, particularly regarding highly contrasting scores between evaluators, or with the interview.

The final ranking of all candidates is listed below. Admission results are:

17 applicants selected. All appears in the main list. There is no reserve list.

Among the Consortium scholarship secured, 4 will be offered to students who chose Upec at the 3rd semester and 4 to students who chose Upec at the 3rd semester.

In the case we receive funding and considering that they all would join the programme:

- 9 EMJM scholarships will be offered to the 9 best students
- 8 consortium scholarships will be offered to 8 other students

In the case we don't receive funding and considering that they all would join the programme:

- 8 consortium scholarships will be offered to 8 best students among each Ujm or Upec track
 - 9 scholarships with fee-waivers (admitted for self-funding)
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PSRS/iPSRS AMB-meeting

Joint AMB-QAB Meeting

15/03/2024 at UEF

Participants :

- Matthieu Roussey (UEF)
- Nathalie Destouches (UJM)
- Amine Nait-Ali (UPEC)
- Carlo Ricciardi (PoliTo remotely)
- Aurore Simonnet (UJM)
- Noora Heikkilä (UEF)
- Alain Trémeau (QAB)
- Marwan Abdou Ahmed (QAB)
- Pasi Vahimaa (QAB)

Agenda : AMB jury and Teaching staff meetings (remotely)

Meeting on June 19th in the morning

- 8:30 a.m to 10:00 a.m : AMB jury meeting for S2 and S3 results+ master
- 10:00 a.m to 10:30 p.m : Teaching staff meeting of Chat GPT (see below)
- 10:30 a.m to 11:00 a.m: Questions

20 minutes Topic “**Chat Gpt**” How teachers and students can use it in a practical and ethical way.

1°) Feedback on PSRS students

Master2 year, cohort 2022-2024 students

At Polito : 1 student is over 5– 1 student missed 2 exams

At Upec : Some are excellent, some are just good but validated some faces difficulties in integrating themselves to the group.

At Ujm: The representative EMA didn't do anything. Some students are good but none is excellent, and also there is no group spirit.

Master1 year, cohort 2023-2025 students

At Ujm: There is a real good spirit in the Cohort, mostly due to a good gender balance.

At Uef: Everything is ok at Uef

Special feedback from M1 representative : There is a lot of workload in Semester 1, and some courses should come after another (Matlab after Fourier Optics)

Joint AMB QAB Meeting

Feed back from students by A Tremeau-QAB member:

About the consortium :

- Students consider there is a lack of coherency concerning the institutions (e.g learning outcomes)
- Regarding the Learning/ teaching activities allocated to ects. If in France, 1 ects =24 teaching hours then, try to harmonize the discrepancies between expectations of the institutions.

- Consortium doesn't pay enough attention to previous students feedback. And there is no enough administrative communication about this, explaining that it cannot be changed easily...

At UJM, we try our best to organize well, but there are some administrative constraints (mutualisation ..).

The Consortium suggest to set a mid semester meeting between teaching staff and students, maybe a QAB representative and course coordinator as well, to discuss about the ongoing semester and ensure that the learning outcomes are achieved.

Maybe a mid semester meeting between teaching staff ,qab representative, course coordinator ?

At PoliTO, there is a significant improvement of satisfaction by the students

2024-26 Applicants and Scholarships

The iPSRS Consortium have 8attractive 22 000 € scholarships secured for students coming next September 2024 (this amount should be enough to live on site and travel) ; Students who will benefit from the scholarships will also benefit from 100 % fee waivers.

And the Consortium hope to reach self- funded students to join the programme. In this case, they will benefit from a 90 % fee waivers (1000 €/year instead of 9000 €).

During the selection meeting held on March14, 2024, 17 applicants were selected. 4 of them chose Upec track for the 3rd semester, 2 chose Vilnius University and 11 chose UJM.

8 of the best ones will receive our scholarship (4 at UJM and 4 at UPEC)