



PRESS RELEASE – 3 JUNE 2015

Exchange agreement signed between École Polytechnique and Columbia University

Jacques Biot, President of École Polytechnique (l'X), and John H. Coatsworth, Provost of Columbia University, have signed an exchange agreement on June 3, 2015 in the domain of Earth and environmental sciences. L'X and Columbia University are linked through the Alliance program, a joint-initiative which fosters innovative academic synergies, research collaborations and faculty mobility.

École Polytechnique and Columbia University signed an agreement to establish an exchange program on June 3, 2015.

According to this agreement, graduate students from Columbia University and École Polytechnique will have the opportunity to spend a short term exchange program, from two weeks to one semester, of their studies at the other institution. Up to four students per year from each institution will be able to take part in this exchange program.

Two graduate students from l'X have already been selected and have been awarded a scholarship from the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences of Columbia University to attend a 4-month Master's program at Columbia, beginning in September 2015. Furthermore, one faculty from Columbia has been selected to take part to the FDSE (Fluid Dynamics of Sustainability and the Environment) summer school organized in September 2015 at École Polytechnique.

This agreement results from the fruitful relationship between the two institutions, which have been exchanging students as well as visiting professors and scientists for many years and which are linked through the Alliance program. The signature of the agreement took place at École Polytechnique, during the Annual meeting of the Alliance Executive Committee.

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ABOUT ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE / École Polytechnique is a leading French institute which combines top-level research, academics, and innovation at the cutting-edge of science and technology. Its three types of progressive graduate-level programs – Ingénieur Polytechnicien, Master's, and PhD – are highly selective and promote a culture of excellence with a strong emphasis on science, anchored in humanist traditions. As a widely internationalized university, École Polytechnique offers a variety of international programs and attracts a growing number of foreign students and researchers from around the globe (currently 30% of students and, 23% of faculty members). École Polytechnique offers an exceptional education to prepare bright men and women to excel in high-level key positions and lead complex and innovative projects which meet the challenges of 21st century society, all while maintaining a keen sense of their civil and social responsibilities. With its 22 laboratories, 21 of which are joint research units with the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), École Polytechnique Research Center explores the frontiers of interdisciplinary knowledge to provide major contributions to science, technology, and society.

www.polytechnique.edu

ABOUT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY / Columbia University is one of the top academic and research institutions in the world, conducting pathbreaking research in medicine, science, the arts, and the humanities. Approximately twenty five thousand students are enrolled in its three undergraduate schools, thirteen graduate and professional schools, and a school of continuing education. With a history of some two hundred and fifty years, Columbia University engages the participation of 1,991 international faculty, researchers, visiting scholars and scientists, and 8,547 international students. Columbia ranks fourth among the 2,500 US colleges and universities reporting international enrollments.

www.columbia.edu

ABOUT ALLIANCE / Created in 2002, Alliance is an innovative academic joint-venture between Columbia University and three major French institutions: École Polytechnique, Sciences Po, and Panthéon-Sorbonne University. The aim of the venture is to pursue innovation in Education and Research between the four institutions by sharing knowledge, practices and resources. A laboratory for innovation, Alliance has become furthermore a major academic platform for transatlantic debate on global issues.

<http://alliance.columbia.edu/>