

# regards Croisés



newsletter number 9 - February 2007

École Centrale Paris



RESEARCH



ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES



INTERNATIONAL SCOPE



CORPORATE WORLD



EVENTS



FOCUS

 FRENCH

## Research

Innovation and valorisation of Research at Ecole Centrale Paris



## Academic Programmes

A "Health and Welfare" forum at ECP



## International Scope

The French Minister of National Education in Ecole Centrale de Pékin



## Corporate World

Take part in our final-year industrial sponsorship committees



## Events

Tour de France Sailing Race : second major event of the summer



## Focus

The BNP Paribas Chair for Teaching and Research in Financial Mathematics



## FOCUS

### The BNP Paribas Chair for Teaching and Research in Financial Mathematics

On December 4, 2006, Georges Chodron de Courcel, Chief Operating Officer of BNP Paribas, and Hervé Biauxser, Director of Ecole Centrale Paris, signed an agreement creating the BNP Paribas Business Chair in Financial Mathematics.

The Chair will explore a new scientific approach, which consists in generating descriptions of financial phenomena based on the analysis of large amounts of historical data. Originating in the United States, this highly promising field of research is now taking off.

Read more in "FOCUS"

Top of page ▲

	HOME PAGE
	ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES
	INTERNATIONAL SCOPE
	CORPORATE WORLD
	EVENTS
	FOCUS

## Innovation and valorisation of Research at Ecole Centrale Paris

Philippe GAUCHER, Professor at ECP, is in charge of the innovation and valorisation at the Direction of Research.

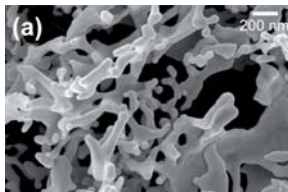
He will manage a network of correspondents belonging to the research laboratories. This group of correspondents will identify and promote new innovative ideas issuing from the research work. The organizations or industries who have a partnership with ECP will be informed. These innovative ideas will also be proposed to some students of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year training for creating start-up enterprises supported by the company incubator.



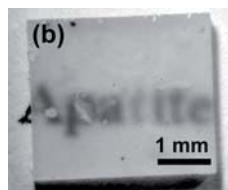
► **Contact:** [philippe.gaucher@ecp.fr](mailto:philippe.gaucher@ecp.fr)

## Fuel Cells at the SPMS Laboratory

A new Scientific Operation (SO) called "materials for fuel cells" has been created at the SPMS laboratory. The main objective is to develop new materials that will allow to lower the working temperature of solid oxide fuel cells (SOFCs) around 500-650°C.



Figures: ion-conducting apatite materials for electrolytes (a) nanometric powder obtained by freeze-drying et (b) dense ceramic after Spark Plasma Sintering.



The new SO tries to have a complete vision of the cell core, including new materials formulation, nanopowders production by soft chemistry, high temperature electrical measurements, and ab initio calculations (almost unique in France on these materials). Among several sources of funding, one ANR grant of 150 000 euros has been obtained in 2005.

► **Contacts:**

[guilhem.dezanneau@ecp.fr](mailto:guilhem.dezanneau@ecp.fr)  
[gregory.geneste@ecp.fr](mailto:gregory.geneste@ecp.fr)







## Professor Leslie Trotter from Cornell University at Ecole Centrale Paris

Professor Leslie Trotter of the School of Operations Research and Industrial Engineering at Cornell University (Ithaca, NY, USA) is visiting the Laboratory of Industrial Engineering at Ecole Centrale Paris for the present academic year, September 2006 - August 2007.

His research activity lies in the area of discrete optimization, with particular emphasis on algorithms and structural properties of models for linear and integer programming. During the past semester, Professor Trotter lectured on discrete mathematics and linear programming in two courses at ECP.

► **Contact:**

[ltrotter@cs.cornell.edu](mailto:ltrotter@cs.cornell.edu)

	HOME PAGE
	RESEARCH
	INTERNATIONAL SCOPE
	CORPORATE WORLD
	EVENTS
	FOCUS

## A “Health an Welfare” forum at ECP

In order to improve the quality of life at the Ecole Centrale Paris, a “Health and Welfare” forum is programmed on the campus on 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2007 from 1:00 p.m.

Around two main directions, on the one hand, the food and sleep balances, and “How to feel well” with physical training, and on the second hand, the tobacco, alcohol, sexually transmitted diseases, and suicide prevention, this friendly and interactive demonstration is a concrete answer to our students’ numerous daily considerations.

" How to fully live one’s schooling and to blossom in one’s mind and body at the Ecole Centrale Paris, being aware of the surrounding risks? " will be the stake of the forum, developed by two students who will make an Autonomous Study Project on that item.

► **Contact:** [yann.le-goff@ecp.fr](mailto:yann.le-goff@ecp.fr)

## The five Ecole Centrale at the exhibition “Grande Ecole”



The newspaper *Le Monde* and Hobsons organised the first edition of the exhibition “Grande Ecole” (engineering schools and business schools) at the Palais Brongniart in Paris on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2007.

For the first time, the five Ecole Centrale (Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Nantes and Paris) participated to the exhibition under the same designation: the *Groupe Centrale*.

At this occasion, the schools put online the group’s website which is a source of information on the acceptance modalities and a starting point to enter each school’s website.

► **More on:**  
[www.groupe-centrale.fr](http://www.groupe-centrale.fr)

## “You are our future and we rely on you”\*

The Ecole Centrale Paris tradition is to receive the Engineering Students of the outgoing Class for a solemn ceremony. This 8<sup>th</sup> December was exceptional.

Indeed, for the first time, all the Engineering Graduates and Master’s Graduates of the Institution gathered together. In the presence of their family, they officially entered the Ecole Centrale Community.




This special day, from student life to professional life, was shared with the teaching staff, the Institution’s Direction, the President of the Centraliens Association and the President of the *Société des Amis*.

\*Conclusion of Hervé Biaisser’s speech

► **Contact:**  
[direction.etudes@ecp.fr](mailto:direction.etudes@ecp.fr)





 HOME PAGE
 RESEARCH
 ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES
 CORPORATE WORLD
 EVENTS
 FOCUS

## The French Minister of National Education in Ecole Centrale de Pékin

Gilles de Robien, French Minister of National Education, was in China from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> february. During his journey he went to BeiHang University housing the Ecole Centrale de Pékin (ECPK). Our Minister was welcomed inside this prestigious Chinese university by its President Mr LI Wei, and he also met Jean

DOREY and ZHENG ZhiMing , both co-directors of Ecole Centrale de Pékin. First, BeiHang University was introduced by Mr LI and then Mr de Robien spoke highly of the combined sino-french action for ECPK's set up. Beyond this encouragement, he undertook the perennality of ECPk through the keeping of the French Classes Préparatoires professors at least until 2011. A group of about thirty students, who where especially there for the Minister in spite of Chinese new year holidays, were

authorised to ask him a few questions. The Minister congratulated them for their outstanding academic results.

► **Contact:** [relations.internationales@ecp.fr](mailto:relations.internationales@ecp.fr)



Legal notices : Centrale Pékin

## Ecoles Centrale get Chinese PhD students

The Groupe des Ecoles Centrale mission, driven by Francis Leboeuf from Lyon, including Ms Cheng Sun from Lyon, Gérard Degallaix from Lille, Bruno Cochelin from Marseille, Patrice Cartraud from Nantes, Marc Zolver from Beijing and Pascal Bernaud from Paris auditionned 33 Chinese candidates for PhD scholarships. At the end of these interviews, 25 students were suggested to the China Scholarship Council, the Chinese authority from the Ministry Of Science and Technology which will provide the financial support for the 3 years stay of the students in Ecole Centrale, from september 2007.

This support follows an agreement between the Groupe des Ecoles Centrale and the CSC, and we are now dealing with the second drive. It appears more efficient than the previous one, with only 13 students who arrived in september 2006. The agreement expects a third drive which, concerning the interview process, will take place in january 2008.

► **Contact:** [relations.internationales@ecp.fr](mailto:relations.internationales@ecp.fr)

## ► Fly'in Time with us

Fly'in Time is a project born a few years ago from the desire of T.I.M.E students at Ecole Centrale Paris to create a large event gathering old T.I.M.E promotions on the campus in a convivial and great atmosphere.

This goal is to revive this event during four days from may 30<sup>th</sup> to june 2<sup>nd</sup> 2007 on the school's campus. On the programme, meetings, visits, dinners and show the different culture that made our school's richness.

► **More on:**

[www.fly-in-time.com](http://www.fly-in-time.com)



	HOME PAGE
	RESEARCH
	ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES
	INTERNATIONAL SCOPE
	EVENTS
	FOCUS

## Take part in our final-year industrial sponsorship committees

When you are an official partner of our School, you are present in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year area of concentration or professional track corresponding to your needs. All along the school year, you have privileged contacts with the students through presentations of your company, your professions, visits of your sites, lectures, seminars, projects works, offers of internships and you intervene in the courses. Being extremely present, the students have a strong brand image of your company at the end of their studies.

This year, 80 companies are partners of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

Welcome to the new companies in 2006-2007:  
ACERGY, AIR FRANCE, ALTEN, BOUYGUES IMMOBILIER, INEUM CONSULTING, **LEHMAN BROTHERS**, NEOLANE, ODDO & CIE, ROLAND BERGER and SETEC.

And thanks to the companies which are still supporting School:

AIR LIQUIDE, ALCAN, AMADEUS, AMGEN, **ARCELOR-MITTAL**, **AREVA**, AT KEARNEY, AXA France, BAIN & COMPAGNIE, BNP PARIBAS, BOUYGUES CONSTRUCTION, BPB PLACO, BUREAU VERITAS, BUSINESS OBJECTS, CARREFOUR, CASINO, CEA, CETELEM, COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE, COLAS, CREDIT AGRICOLE SA, DASSAULT AVIATION, DASSAULT SYSTEMES, DEUTSCHE BANK, EADS, EDF, EGIS, EIFFAGE, ERAMET, ERCOM, ERNST & YOUNG, FAURECIA, GUINTOLI, IBM France, IFSBM, IXSEA, JP MORGAN, KLEE, MAZARS, **MCKINSEY&COMPANY**, MERCER MANAGEMENT CONSULTING, MICHELIN, NATIXIS, PEA Consulting, PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS, **PSA Peugeot Citroën**, QUALICONSULT, RENAULT, **SAFRAN**, SAIPEM, SCHLUMBERGER, SERENSIA, SNCF, **SOCIETE GENERALE**, SOLETANCHE BACHY, SOLVAY, SPIE BATIGNOLLES, STERIA, SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT, SYNTEC, THALES, THE BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP, TOTAL, UNIBAIL MANAGEMENT, UNILOG, VALLOUREC, VEOLIA ENVIRONNEMENT and VINCI.

*In red ink: PREMIUM partners*

► **Contact:** corporate partnership - [sylvie.mazurat@ecp.fr](mailto:sylvie.mazurat@ecp.fr)

## The “Rencontres Césures”: an appreciated event

On January 9<sup>th</sup>, the 130 students of 2<sup>nd</sup> year candidates for a break year, have made acquaintance with the 18 companies participating to that event:

ALCAN, AXA France, BAIN & COMPAGNIE, BNP PARIBAS, CREDIT AGRICOLE SA, COLOMBUS Consulting, DASSAULT SYSTEMES, DAVIDSON, DELOITTE, ERNST & YOUNG, LEON GROSSE, LEONARDO, PSA PEUGEOT CITROEN, SAFRAN, SOCIETE GENERALE, TF1, TOTAL et UNILOG.

The students appreciated this meeting and the companies representatives noted, this year, the quality of the exchanges and the maturity of the projects.

► **Contact:** corporate partnership - [sylvie.mazurat@ecp.fr](mailto:sylvie.mazurat@ecp.fr)

## Don't forget to send your training tax in February 2007

Without the training tax, the school would not be able to maintain its high education level.

Please join the companies which support the ECP!  
**Contact :**  
[lara.wolfman@ecp.fr](mailto:lara.wolfman@ecp.fr)

## Forward your offers of training courses and jobs

### YOUR TRAINING COURSES OFFERS

#### Operator training:

At least 6 weeks at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> year  
(from 2007/06/18 to 2007/09/07)

#### Internship Abroad:

At least 6 weeks at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year  
(from 2007/06/18 to 2007/08/31)

#### Final internship:

6 months at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year  
(from 2007/04/23 to 2007/11/16)

#### Contact:

The Office of the Training in Companies:  
[de-bfe-stages@ecp.fr](mailto:de-bfe-stages@ecp.fr)

### YOUR JOB OFFERS

#### Contact:

Association des Centraliens,  
Service Carrières & Emploi  
[carrieres@centraliens.net](mailto:carrieres@centraliens.net)

	HOME PAGE
	RESEARCH
	ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES
	INTERNATIONAL SCOPE
	CORPORATE WORLD
	FOCUS

## Tour de France Sailing Race : second major event of the summer !

The Tour de France Sailing Race is the main race of the "French championship of the Crews", and has an international reputation. With more than 500 000 visitors last year, this event appears to be the second major event of the summer after the famous Tour de France bicycle race. About forty crews of professionals, amateurs and students compete during one month on each sea of the French coast on board of Mumm 30 (the boat chosen for the race).



### The project started again

Centrale Tour starts again this year aiming to be present on the Tour de France Sailing Race 2007. For this reason, a new team of students are looking for partners. BearingPoint has already accepted to support the project, and will be the main partner until the Course Croisière Edhec. D'Aucy will also support the team during all the season by bringing a material aid.

### A golden support

The project is supported by the navigator Damien Seguin, gold medal at the Olympic Games of Athens in the category handisport sailing. Born without his left hand, he keeps on trying to break the frontier between valid and handicapped. An example to follow...Centrale Tour 2007 will benefit from Damien's experience of high level competition and his attraction for the big challenges.

### An ambitious program

In addition to its participation to the Tour de France Sailing Race (its final objective), Centrale Tour 2007 has planned to take part to all the regattas of the season : Spi Ouest France, Grand Prix de l'Ecole Navale, Course Croisière Edhec.

The members of the project are currently looking for financial partners in order to make their participation to this prestigious race certain. Wish the team good luck!

- ▶ **Contact:** Dimitri Molle - dimitri.molle@student.ecp.fr
- ▶ **More on:** [www.centrale-tour.fr](http://www.centrale-tour.fr)

### ■ Sébastien Candel receives the merit badge of "Officier dans l'Ordre national du Mérite"

François Goulard, Minister of Higher Education and Research, presented the merit badge of "Officier dans l'Ordre national du Mérite" to Professor Sébastien Candel. The celebration took place in the big lounge of the Ecole Centrale Paris in the presence of the Director of the Ecole Centrale and many guests.

- ▶ **More on:** [E.M2.C. laboratory website](http://E.M2.C.laboratory.website)



### ■ Naskeo Environnement awarded

Naskeo Environnement, firm supported by Ecole Centrale Paris incubator, has been awarded the first prize of the Trophies of "2007 Hauts-de-Seine economic hopes", on February, 6, 2007, at the CCIP Paris - Hauts-de-Seine.

- ▶ **More on:** [www.naskeo.com](http://www.naskeo.com)

	HOME PAGE
	RESEARCH
	ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES
	INTERNATIONAL SCOPE
	CORPORATE WORLD
	EVENTS

## BNP Paribas and Ecole Centrale Paris have created the BNP Paribas Chair for Teaching and Research in Financial Mathematics

(...suite de la première page)

The Chair will be supported by:

- BNP Paribas' quantitative research teams, which are actively contributing to their bank's development on the derivatives markets.
- The expertise of Ecole Centrale's Applied Mathematics and Systems Research Laboratory, which has developed a strong reputation in the fields of modeling, algorithmics and processing large quantities of data.

This signals a new stage in the relationship between BNP Paribas and Ecole Centrale Paris, building on the bank's considerable support for the development of ECP over the past several years.

The establishment of this Chair will entail the creation of a new research project within the Applied Mathematics Research Laboratory at Ecole Centrale Paris, which will be directed by an internationally renowned specialist, recruited specially for this position, to carry out an ambitious programme of applied research.

The Chair will also coordinate courses and student projects in financial mathematics, and organize a series of widely publicized events (conferences, seminars, publications) addressed to an audience of experts, professionals and scientists.

According to Christian Saguez, director of the Applied Mathematics Research Laboratory at Ecole Centrale Paris: *"new information processing technologies will provide engineers with extremely innovative tools for modeling complex systems. This Chair will bring together mathematicians and finance specialists, opening up a new dimension for predictive analysis in finance."*

According to Stéphane Tyc, head of equity and commodity derivatives research at BNP Paribas: *"this Chair is designed to enable the coupling of historical data analysis and complex derivatives pricing. Such a combination of proprietary trading research and exotic pricing models is rare. This Chair will contribute to its promotion, training students with all the skills required by the industry."*

The Chair will fit into the "Financial Industry — Technologies and Innovation" competitiveness pole currently being developed in Paris. It will have an operating budget of 1.5 million of euros over an initial 5-year period.

### ► Contacts:

Gilles Gleyze  
gilles.gleyze@ecp.fr