

Press Release

**THE UNIVERSITY OF PANTHEON-ASSAS
AND
ESSEC BUSINESS SCHOOL
SIGN A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

Paris, 30 October 2008

The University of Panthéon-Assas and ESSEC Business School have signed an academic, research and cultural partnership agreement focusing on their common fields of specialisation: law, economics and management.

The partnership consists of study options that make it possible for students from both institutions to access and attend each respective school. It also establishes dual degree programs, mutual participation in projects and research structures, faculty exchanges, and cooperative efforts that reinforce the international reputation of both universities.

ESSEC students with a prior background in legal studies can be admitted into the last year of Panthéon-Assas Masters's in Law programs in: European Business Law, Business Law, Business and Tax Law, Banking and Finance Law, and Public Administration and Business Law.

Panthéon-Assas Master's in Law students (and Master's in Law graduates) can participate in the joint program. With recommendation by their program director, they are considered automatically eligible for the entry exam to ESSEC's Advanced Master's in International Business Law and Management.

Panthéon-Assas Master's in Law students and graduates are also automatically eligible for the entry exam to the ESSEC MBA. The MBA's requirements for completion take into account admitted candidates' prior academic and professional experience.

In addition, the University of Panthéon-Assas **and ESSEC Business School are committed to encouraging joint research projects** that benefit faculty members and researchers at their respective research centres and institutes, especially on cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary topics.

This agreement was signed at the symposium to **launch ESSEC's Centre Européen de Droit et d'Economie** (the European Center for Law and Economics), which will be **one of the main arenas for collaborative research between the two institutions.**

As part of the **Commission Philip**, an initiative sponsored by the French government to improve ties between schools and universities, Valérie Pécresse, the French Minister of Higher Education and Research cited the University of Panthéon-Assas and ESSEC as helping to prepare students with profiles that are the most sought-after by companies and public sector organisations. Their **dual skill-set** is based on distinct disciplinary fields that foster a rare talent for dealing with and managing situations and complex issues.

About ESSEC

Founded in 1907, ESSEC Business School, Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Economiques et Commerciales, is a major actor in international management education.

19 undergraduate degrees and 25 executive education certificate and degree programs are offered with 1,300 Masters' and MBA degrees awarded each year. The student body of 4,000 includes 1,200 international students of 82 nationalities.

Courses are taught by researchers of international renown and executives of well-known companies. Together, they perpetuate a tradition of academic excellence, encourage individual creativity, personal development, and a spirit of openness to best serve business and social concerns. For additional information: www.essec.edu.

About the University of Panthéon-Assas

As one of France's leading universities specialised in legal studies, the University of Panthéon-Assas fosters diversity and cultivates a real synergy between teaching, research and the business world in four main areas: law and political science, business administration, economics, and information-communication.

Combining the expertise of close to 1,500 well-known faculty members and renowned experts in their fields, it offers a wide range of programs that integrate studies abroad and internships.

With 200 agreements and partnerships with other schools and universities, law firms and companies in Europe and the rest of the world, the university is committed to providing study options firmly rooted in the realities of the business world both in France and internationally. It offers 17 undergraduate degrees, 85 Master's degrees, 3 LL.M.s, an MBA, 24 "apprentissage" programs, and 11 dual degree programs that draw a total of 18,000 students, including 3,000 international students. In addition, academic contributions from the university's 24 research centres are further proof of its diversity, energy, academic quality and reactivity. For additional information (in French): www.u-paris2.fr.

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