

# Association des Programmes Universitaires Américains en France A.P.U.A.F.



## NEWS – MARCH 2011

### **ANNUAL ALL-FRANCE MEETING & GENERAL ASSEMBLY – MARCH 10-12**

Over 70 directors and staff members from programs throughout France attended this year's APUAF-sponsored meetings held at the CEA-Paris center in the Marais on March 11 and preceded by a welcome reception at the Beckel Odille Boicos art gallery in the Bastille area on March 10. The annual event was a great success and generated lively discussions.

We would like to recognize and thank the organizing committee, headed by Alexandra Mitchell of CEA-Paris, as well as all of the speakers, discussion group leaders and CEA staff for their hard work and contributions. The varied, bicultural agenda included guest speakers and panelists from France and the U.S. who addressed issues such as women's and gender studies in France, resources for LGBT students, cultural identity and integration, and crime and safety. Small-group discussions led by APUAF members focused on topics including accommodating students with special needs, Internet security and responsibility, housing issues and use of blogs and Facebook.

The General Assembly was also very well-attended and provided colleagues with information about upcoming workshops and conferences, France-US grade conversion scales, and ways for U.S. students to return to France to work as "young professionals", among other topics. PowerPoint presentations and handouts are available to APUAF members at [www.apuaf.org](http://www.apuaf.org).

Next year's annual meeting will be held in Strasbourg and hosted by the University of Syracuse. The tentative date is Friday, March 16. This meeting is open to all programs in France.

### **NEW FEATURE: LISTSERVE FOR APUAF MEMBERS**

APUAF members who missed the meetings and wish to subscribe to the Listserve to be launched soon should send an e-mail indicating their interest and e-mail address to [info@apuaf.org](mailto:info@apuaf.org). For now, this service is limited to institutional members' two designated representatives. It will function in much the same way as SECUSSA-L and is designed to facilitate direct communication between APUAF members. Official APUAF announcements will continue to be communicated via the web site and APUAF e-mail address.

### **FORUM ON EDUCATION ABROAD ANNUAL CONFERENCE – APRIL 6-8**

Several APUAF members will participate in panels and/or attend the annual conference in Boston. All are welcome at the **Lunchtime Conversation on Thursday, April 7** with representatives from our sister organizations in Europe (AACUPI, APUNE, AASAP and others) where one of the main discussion topics will be the idea of creating a pan-European association. Please join us!

## **APUAF 2011 CONFERENCE – JUNE 17-18: TRANSATLANTIC VOICES & PERSPECTIVES**

Brian Whalen, President of the Forum, will lead a workshop on the Standards of Good Practice on Friday, June 17 at Boston University's center in Paris. Capacity is limited to 50 participants, with priority given to APUAF members until April 1. Slots are still available. Anyone interested in participating should send an e-mail entitled Standards Workshop to [apuaf@info.org](mailto:apuaf@info.org).

June 18 sessions and topics will include Current Trends in U.S. Higher Education and in Study Abroad, with speakers Philip Lewis of the Mellon Foundation and Brian Whalen of the Forum, and two afternoon panels focusing on French language study and French Studies in the U.S. and the role and use of English as an instructional language in French higher education.

A detailed schedule and conference registration information will be posted soon. June 18 sessions are open to all and non-APUAF members will be asked to pay a nominal conference fee.

## **SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS & WORKSHOPS IN 2011**

The first APUAF-sponsored half-day workshop on Service Learning & Volunteer Opportunities was held on February 4 at ACCENT-Paris and drew around 15 enthusiastic participants who appreciated the opportunity for more in-depth discussion and exploration of a specific topic. A summary is available to APUAF members on the web site (Cf. Members Only – Documents).

Other 2011 workshops planned:

**August 26** – Designing On-site Orientation Programs, led by Sylvie Toux and Edward Costello. This half-day workshop will be followed by another half-day session on issues in program management aimed at new or recent Resident Directors and key staff.

**October 14** (following the General Assembly): Dealing with Student Mental Health Issues. This workshop will be led by a team of clinical psychologists and counselors from International Counseling Services in Paris.

**December 9:** Disability Issues in Study Abroad, organized by Hannah Taïeb of CIEE-Paris.

Details will be available and posted two months prior to each workshop.

## **OTHER EVENTS**

**May 25-26: Rencontres Universités Entreprises (RUE 2011)** will hold its annual event at the CNIT-Paris – la Défense. This two-day fair provides opportunities to promote relationships and partnerships between educational institutions and private industry and also includes debates, round table discussions, etc. Details are available at [www.rue2011.com](http://www.rue2011.com) and interested parties may also contact Jean-François Leven at [jean-francois.leven@aef.info](mailto:jean-francois.leven@aef.info)

**Aug 19-29: France Bénévolat & Homeless World Cup.** Volunteers are needed to help welcome and assist athletes from 64 countries who will participate in the Coupe du Monde de Football des Sans-abris on the Champs de Mars in Paris. Detailed information about the event is available at [www.homelessworldcup.org](http://www.homelessworldcup.org). Please contact Elisabeth Pascaud, President of the Paris branch of France Bénévolat at [e.pascaud@francebenevolat.org](mailto:e.pascaud@francebenevolat.org)