

DECEMBER 2009

A few items before the holiday break / Quelques nouvelles avant les vacances de fin d'année :

#### 2009-10 MEMBERSHIP

The deadline for joining APUAF or renewing 2008-09 memberships was October 30. We will be updating the member list in early January; the last possible date to send in a membership form and a check to APUAF for the current academic year is January 6. The form and information are available under Members.

#### H1N1 VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

As you know, the public vaccination campaign has begun in France for high-priority groups covered by French *sécurité sociale*. Many students in U.S. programs who are not enrolled full-time in French universities do not have the *sécu*, and we have received some queries about their ability to be vaccinated in France.

Ministry of Health officials in Paris have informed us that if students go to the nearest *mairie* or CPAM (Caisse primaire d'assurance maladie) in their neighborhoods and present their passports along with an official *attestation d'hébergement* (e.g., letter of residency signed by a landlord or French host), they should be able to get a "coupon" to receive a free vaccination in due course. Officials were unable to give an approximate date or time frame for these vaccinations, however.

Professor Robert Dorit, who spoke at our General Assembly in October, has succeeded in negotiating a special agreement with a vaccination center in the 14th *arrondissement* in Paris for around 300 students in U.S. programs. Paris program directors interested in this opportunity for their continuing students and January arrivals should send an e-mail request for more detailed information to: [info@apuaf.org](mailto:info@apuaf.org)

#### OFII (Office of Immigration) & VISA UPDATE

An informal survey of 14 Paris-based programs this month revealed varying experiences with processing of student applications and required OFII medical exams in Paris. Some programs reported a 100% success rate whereas others stated that few students had received medical appointments prior to the program end date. A list of difficulties cited by respondents will be relayed to Ministry officials with whom APUAF representatives met last June, and we will underscore that there will be many more student applications from U.S. programs to process in the spring.

It appears that the number of student dossiers in Paris may slow down the process, even for a group deposit. As for individual submissions (*dépôt individuel*) at the *Cité Universitaire* in Paris, some documents may have been rejected by OFII officials, resulting in further delays. If your program does not have an agreement with the *préfecture* for a *dépôt groupé*, you may want to contact *préfecture* or OFII officials to inquire about this option before spring students arrive. Program staff should nonetheless verify all student dossiers to make sure they are complete before forwarding them to the OFII or *préfecture*. In the case of a group deposit, program staff are also advised to contact the *préfecture* or OFII office to follow up if students have not received medical appointments within 5-6 weeks after submission.

Ultimately, it is the students' responsibility to complete all the necessary steps within the required time frame and to show up for the medical exam on the scheduled day with the 55-euro timbre fiscal and other required documents.

See October advice under Previous News and memo sent by the Paris préfecture under

Members Only.

Web site : [www.ofii.fr](http://www.ofii.fr)

EARLY-BIRD REGISTRATION DEADLINE!

Forum on Education Abroad Conference : "Vision and Value in Education Abroad"

March 24-26, 2010 in Charlotte, North Carolina

Early-bird fee: \$425 for institutional members who register online before January 15

Various colleagues in France will be leading workshops and sessions, with one panel focusing on the results of the Information & Communication Technology Survey in France. Many thanks to the 15 participating programs and 400 or so students, faculty and staff who completed the ICT questionnaire in November!

Registration & conference details: [www.forumea.org](http://www.forumea.org)

OTHER MARCH 2010 EVENTS

The annual RD meeting will take place in Arles on Friday, March 12. Attendees traveling from Paris or other distant regions should plan to arrive by 7 p.m. on March 11 for the welcome cocktail. A tentative schedule for the Saturday event and hotel recommendations will be posted on the APUAF web site in January.

APUAF's General Assembly will take place the morning of March 13. Members will vote on revised bylaws and a règlement intérieur; a preliminary draft will be sent via e-mail to all members in January and a final draft sent along with the AG convocation in mid-February.

APUAF COMMUNICATION

Beginning in January 2010, only announcements from APUAF institutional members will be posted on the Bulletin Board, i.e., requests from individuals and non-members will no longer be posted. \*Please send any announcements or messages at least one week prior to a scheduled event or deadline.\* We cannot guarantee same- or next-day posting.

We will no longer forward detailed messages or postings to the member list via the APUAF e-mail address. Instead, a message will be sent alerting members that new information is available on the web site.

Last but not least...