

EDSP2 Council meeting of December 4, 2025

On the agenda:

Approval of draft minutes of Council meetings in 2025

1. Information
2. Doctoral students have their say
3. Competition for the awarding of EDSP2 doctoral contracts
 - 2025 Competition Results
 - 2026 Competition Planning
4. Training opportunities
5. Societal and environmental transitions: consolidating actions already undertaken
6. Miscellaneous questions

PLENARY SESSION

Before beginning the information update, the ED director submits the draft reports to the Council members for approval.

A discussion ensued regarding the draft revised minutes of the meeting of January 22nd.

A request was made to add elements to the minutes, specifically the demands of the doctoral students and the research units at Sciences Po Bordeaux. The administration reiterated that it had been agreed, outside of the meeting and with the consent of the members concerned (from the Doctoral Studies Center and the Laboratory for Applied Mathematics), to establish a strictly factual record of decisions, accompanied by the addition of a sentence explicitly mentioning the lack of consensus, which has been done in the proposed minutes. The management then proposes a vote.

Decision: It is decided to proceed with a vote by show of hands.

- The four uncontested reports were unanimously approved.
- The January report, the source of the debate, is also approved with 3 votes against and 1 "Abstention".

1. Information

1.1. International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (25/11/2025)

Although the day dedicated to the event has passed, the university is making tools available:

- The VSS MOOC, to better understand and identify sexist and sexual violence.
- The MOOC "Inclusive Pedagogies", intended for staff, to strengthen more inclusive professional practices.

- The game "Catch me if you can", available for loan in university libraries, to address the concepts of consent and prevention in an interactive way.
- Government training kits are available on the website.

In case of assault, harassment or sexist remarks within the university setting: Listening, monitoring and reporting unit (CEVS)

- Cell referral form: <https://apps-ent.u-bordeaux.fr/cevs/>

- Contact for students: celluledeveille.etudiant@u-bordeaux.fr
- Contact for staff: celluledeveille.personnel@u-bordeaux.fr

1.2. Other events

IMPACT SO 2026: Impact of open science on research and scientific practices. Information: <https://impactso2026.sciencesconf.org/>

ComSciCon is a science communication workshop. ComSciCon is *tentatively* scheduled to take place in Bordeaux the week of June 29, 2026.

1.3. Call for projects 2026 Bordeaux MSH

<https://www.mshbx.fr/campagne-appel-a-projets-2026-mshbx/#>

1.4. 2025-2026 Registration Campaign Review

The detailed report of the 2025-2026 campaign will be presented as part of the MESRI's annual SIREDO survey (EDSP2 Council meeting of May 21, 2026).

The 2025-2026 data is not yet stable, but a decrease in staff numbers is confirmed.

Années univ.	Total inscrits	F	H	Doctorants étrangers	1ère année	Inscrits >3A	Nb d'abandon	Nb de thèses soutenues	Nb de contrats doctoraux 1A	Nb de CIFRE 1A
25/26	294	169	125	72	58	106	6	34	29	2
24/25	333	198	135	92	74	126	14	77	33	5
23/24	353	207	146	100	64	142	16	69	38	7
22/23	378	216	162	112	71	138	17	50	27	5
21/22	380	213	167	106	81	127	17	60	30	6
20/21	378	197	181	117	95	116	10	62	28	12
19/20	333	169	164	107	85	92	17	61	25	6

1.5. Modulation of training hours/minimum 50 hours

Doctoral students in joint supervision or CIFRE programs automatically benefit from the modulation of training hours (no specific action is required with the Doctoral School). Doctoral students engaged in professional activity unrelated to their thesis or with a disability are also eligible for this program, provided they submit a request.

2.6. Upcoming events within the Doctoral School

General Assemblies

January 29, 2026 - Room TD5 (Building Q-1st floor), Victoire campus

10am/12pm: General Assembly for Doctoral

Students 2pm/4pm: EC/C

Supervisors' Workshop

¹ First workshop on Doctoral Practices: February 20, 2025

^{2nd} Workshop: Framing Elements and Perspectives from Specialized Services: April 21, 2025

^{3rd} Workshop: March 19, 2026 at 2 p.m.

Topic: Establishing good working relationships and managing difficulties

Doctoral School Day

April 28, 2026

Speaker: Renaud Hourcade (CNRS researcher - CED)

Proposed theme: Transition and transformations of research practices

Doctoral conferences : the organization of this event is currently under consideration.

2.7 The EDSP2 Interdisciplinarity Thesis Prize

This prize must meet two requirements: interdisciplinarity and excellence. The discussion has been reopened with proposals for evaluating these two criteria.

- Excellence: Evaluate the scientific quality of the work (rigor, originality, impact, etc.) *via* the classic elements contained in the application file (CV, defense reports, publications, opinions of the pre-reviewers).
- Interdisciplinarity, a concept often insufficiently defined, makes its evaluation partly subjective. Using an existing evaluation grid, based on criteria previously validated by the Council members, is one possible approach. Candidates would be asked to complete this grid as part of a self-assessment.

It is also proposed to set up, each year, an ad hoc jury, without conflict of interest, composed where appropriate of two representatives per field.

The proposed rubric will be submitted to the Council members (EC/C) for their opinion, with feedback expected in early January. The award ceremony will take place on April 28, during School Day.
doctoral.

3. Doctoral students have their say

The representatives of the doctoral students apologize for their absence from the orientation day for first-year students.

The late invitation from the ED to come and introduce themselves did not allow them to organize themselves and make themselves available.

Residence permits for international doctoral students . The administrative procedures are a significant burden, but also financially (especially for unfunded doctoral students), morally and psychologically.

Financial support from the Doctoral School, where possible, would be greatly appreciated and would meet a real need.

The EDSP2 management reiterates its request: such matters must be communicated to them prior to the Council meeting so that they can provide the best possible answers. Whenever financial support of any kind is involved, it is essential to verify what falls within the prerogatives and resources of the ED.

For your information, the Doctoral School (ED) had previously implemented a program to help students experiencing hardship. This initiative was clearly stated to fall outside the scope of its mission, as the ED could not replace existing support systems at the University of Bordeaux. Regarding direct financial assistance, the answer is generally negative given the ED's assigned responsibilities. An investigation will be conducted to explore other options.

Precarious situation of doctoral students and limited or no access to support services :

1. **Tuition fee exemption** : The minimum income threshold for exemption is currently set at a very high level. However, this threshold is calculated based on the previous year's tax liability, which effectively excludes most doctoral students.

2. **Access to RSA** : The Gironde department systematically refuses access to RSA for doctoral students, on the grounds that the doctorate is not considered an optional course.

It is proposed that the relevant authorities at the institution be informed that the minimum income threshold required to qualify for tuition fee exemption appears too high. This measure could, however, be a significant source of support for doctoral students facing financial hardship.

The Doctoral School administration encourages doctoral student representatives to seek information from, or direct other doctoral students to, the University of Bordeaux's student services (health services, social and financial aid, Campus Panier). These services were presented during the first-year orientation day.

3. Training opportunities

As every year, the laboratories were questioned about the needs of their doctoral students and the training courses/seminars they organize and agree to open to all doctoral students of the ED.

Representatives of doctoral students were also consulted.

Training needs should be reported to the ED, even after this council meeting has taken place.

Doctoral students are questioning **teacher training** and the reasons for the rejection of many applications.

Doctoral students who do not have teaching duties, but who perform part-time work, are not given priority.

Their request is unlikely to be successful, as even doctoral students on fixed-term contracts must wait until their second, or even third, year to be able to take this course. The College of Doctoral Schools is aware of this situation, which is reiterated each year at the meetings of its training committee. The five sessions offered annually are nevertheless insufficient to meet all the demand.

It would be useful for the representatives of doctoral students within the Council of the College of Doctoral Schools to address this subject at a future meeting.

Regarding the recognition **of courses not listed in the Adum catalog**, a maximum number of hours has been set to encourage diverse learning paths. Thus, MOOCs are validated for a maximum of 15 hours and participation in a summer school for a maximum of 30 hours. These provisions are detailed in the EDSP2 framework, available on the doctoral website (currently under revision). However, courses taught by doctoral students, as well as orientation days for the Doctoral School, the College of Doctoral Schools, or the laboratory, are not included in the calculation of training hours.

Regarding the allocation of a minimum number of hours between the Doctoral School College and the Doctoral School itself, aimed at promoting diversification between interdisciplinary training (open to doctoral students from the eight doctoral schools) and disciplinary training: the minimum of 25 hours for the Doctoral School College is met through the two mandatory MOOCs (27 hours). However, the Doctoral School's second year of training remains flexible by validating courses not listed in the official catalog, without being limited to these maximums.

Training courses made available online in Adum by EDSP2

Display in Adum, for information purposes, with validation of hours in the Adum off-catalogue (certificate of participation to be submitted)

Training opportunities offered by MSHBordeaux
Seminars of the Public Action Axis of LACES

Displaying and managing registrations in Adum

Continuation of the training course "Methodological Challenges - Introduction to Unique Methodological Tools: The Case of Indirect Questioning". Speaker: Eric Dugas

An Erasmus+ DILAN (Digital Language and Communication Training for EU scientists) online follow-up proposal : An introduction to online science communication strategies.

This should be forwarded to the College of Doctoral Schools as the training is likely to be of interest to doctoral students from all 8 Doctoral Schools.

The needs of doctoral students as reported by the laboratories

BPH Laboratory

Following the survey sent to the 103 doctoral students (45 responses obtained), 2 requests emerged: Project management and responding to a call for projects (preferably in English).

The College of Doctoral Schools has been consulted, and appears to be able to respond to these requests.

Regarding calls for projects: this point was identified and validated by the training committee last July. A new "International Scientific Careers" program is proposed.

- Discover international opportunities during a scientific career
- Calls for projects: what funders and evaluators are thinking
- Doing a postdoctoral fellowship abroad: skills, target audiences and funding
- Ability to write an individual project of excellence for a Marie Skłodowska-Curie postdoc (or equivalent)

The program has an international focus, but the "call for proposals" sections are designed to be fully transferable to all types of calls for proposals. This program works very well with doctoral students and will be offered for renewal.

Project management component

Observation: there is a need to offer project management training to doctoral students.

A "Time Management and Optimization" training course is offered annually, focusing on project management challenges. Next year's course will be expanded to include more project management content and will offer different levels of instruction and methodologies.

Emile Durkheim Centre Laboratory A

census is underway among doctoral students of the CED, Passages, LAM, and the Didactics Laboratory.

Steps are being taken to offer a **training day in Nvivo** for doctoral students and teacher-researchers and researchers.

A survey is underway to determine dates to propose to the trainers.

4. Competition for the awarding of doctoral contracts at EDSP2

As every year, time is set aside for discussion on the conduct of the last competition in order to collectively implement improvements if necessary.

It became necessary to gather and redefine, in internal regulations, the following elements: the three main areas of the Doctoral School and the role of their heads, the composition and role of the jury (five members per main area, and the chair who is non-voting, i.e., 15 voting members), the status of the doctoral student-observer, the role

The number of doctoral contracts allocated to EDSP2 is set at 12. The management of the doctoral school has informed the College of Doctoral Schools of its wish to discuss again the distribution of contracts by doctoral school.

The jury rules will be amended by the decisions taken today and submitted for discussion and approval at the next Council meeting.

Due to time constraints, the Council meeting was adjourned before the item concerning Societal and Environmental Transitions could be addressed. Members were invited to review the slides outlining the actions implemented by the laboratories.