



Press Release

8 September 2016

The Pôle Atlantique Executive Education joins forces with Centrale Nantes to meet new challenges in planning and construction.

Against the backdrop of a new national strategy for architecture announced in 2016 by the government, the Pays de la Loire region is getting fully prepared. After more than ten years of operation and the development of an in-service training programme open to all planning and construction professionals, the Pôle Atlantique announces changes in governance and its operations in joining forces with Centrale Nantes.

At a press conference held at ensa Nantes on 8 September 2016, Arnaud Poitou, director of Centrale Nantes, Christian Dautel, director of ensa Nantes, and Gilles Leroy, president of the URCAUE, presented their joint agreements and strategies within a restructured Pôle Atlantique.

This tripartite agreement and the resulting training strategies are in line with the **national strategy for architecture** announced in 2014. Two out of its six chapters relate specifically to the articulation between **training, research and industry** as well as **support for career changes**.

The ensa Nantes, Centrale Nantes and URCAUE partnership within the Pôle Atlantique contributes to the goal of **broadening the range of continuing education** offered to the various professionals that each member encounters through its own activities: young graduates taking up their first employment, active professional people seeking to enhance their skills or to specialize, employees or professionals in private practice.

Through their activities in the field of higher education, initial or continuing education, support for public and private entities in their planning and construction projects, ensa Nantes, Centrale Nantes and URCAUE have **a complete and up-to-date vision of the issues and developments** facing these professionals.

Through their **respective networks**, they have the **capacity to listen to and compile the needs** of all these professionals at both national and regional level. Through their institutional and historical relationships with the various national, regional and local authorities, they are crucial players in the capacity to respond to local and regional needs with regards to evolving occupations and professional skills in the planning and construction field.

The re-structuring of the Pôle Atlantique Executive Education is part of the **ambition to pool and develop the experience and know-how** of each of its members, in order to serve the professionals working on the living environment and to provide them with the most appropriate solutions to support their business development.

Centrale Nantes, ensa Nantes and URCAUE decided to pool their resources and skills within the Pôle Atlantique Education. **Starting in October 2016, two new training courses** will be offered to professionals in the planning and construction sectors in the Pays de Loire region:

- **Economy Construction Track, starting 17 October 2016**

The objective of this course is to help professionals to manage construction cost estimates, to assess a project's value for money, to choose materials in the current regulatory context, and finally to address new construction techniques such as prefabrication, lightweight construction and modular construction.

This five-day course is intended to be an introduction to the construction economy. It has been put together in 3 modules to reflect the different perspectives:

Module 1: Managing the budgetary aspect of the construction economy - October 17, 2016

During this one-day course, architects and engineers, all of whom are involved in project management, learn how to understand the economic aspect of an architectural project, how to use the appropriate financial methods for study and costs.

Module 2: Materials performance, life cycle and regional anchoring

Module 3: Optimization of construction systems

- **BIM Track**

All players in the construction sector (architects, engineers, urban planners, surveyors, construction economists, etc.) will have to comply with Building Information Modelling (BIM - the digital model). The development of this digital mock-up implies a new and inescapable way of working and therefore new skills to acquire. This training course aims to use REVIT software in an operational and collaborative way and to understand BIM management and project management.

Module A "BIM with REVIT" - 3 progressive modules spread over 10 days (November 2016 to January 2017): participants will learn how to work with REVIT software on a real project and collaborate with all the project stakeholders.

Module B "BIM project management and BIM management" over 5 days: BIM has an important impact on the way of working of all those involved in an architectural project (architects, design engineers, economists, surveyors). They need support to develop their skills on drafting BIM specifications, leading projects internally and monitoring the implementation of collaborative work.

A further track is planned for 2017:

- **20th Century Building: Restoration and Energy Transition**

The aim here is to develop skills that will lead to the implementation of a 20th century building renovation strategy through mainstream thinking on architecture, energy and the economy. Various topics will be covered: straw and wood restoration, indoor air quality, lighting, micro-climate, thermal and acoustic restoration.

This course consists of 3 modules:

Module 1: Assessment of the existing building - feasibility study for re-use

Module 2: Building Re-use: Impact Assessment

Module 3: Energy performance - urban renewal - thermal restoration

The 6 points of the new national architecture strategy

On 20th October 2015, Fleur Pellerin, then French Minister of Culture and Communications, presented the six key points of the national strategy intended to change how our society views architecture and “achieve ordinary excellence in everyday places”:

- 1 • Raise awareness and develop knowledge of architecture amongst the general public and all those involved in public and private construction.
- 2 • Take into account the architectural heritage of the 20th and 21st centuries and develop architectural intervention to enhance and transform the existing built environment
- 3 • **Develop links between training, research and industry, and bring the professional worlds of architecture, construction and living environment closer together.**
- 4 • **Identify and mobilize architectural skills**
- 5 • Distinguish the economic value of architecture and **support career change**
- 6 • Support the experimental approach and its cultural value

About URCAUE

Created in 1983 and chaired today by Gilles Leroy, URCAUE federates the five CAUEs (Councils of Architecture, Urbanism and Environment) of the Pays de la Loire region. Their role, established by the French Architecture Act of 3 January 1977, is to promote the architectural, urban, landscape and environmental quality of communities, professionals and individuals. In order to reinforce their role at the regional level, URCAUE organizes, coordinates and runs joint actions of the CAUEs and, as a training organization, develops continuing education for professionals working in architecture, urban planning, environment and the landscape of the

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Pays de la Loire region.

About ensa Nantes (École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Nantes)

Under the direction of Christian Dautel, the school prepares students for the state diploma in architecture and proposes a wide range of multidisciplinary programmes in collaboration with the university and other regional higher education establishments such as Centrale Nantes.

ensa Nantes is a French public higher education and research institution, attached to the Ministry of Culture and Communication. It is one of 20 French schools that prepare students for the state diploma in architecture. It also provides other postgraduate courses (alone or in conjunction with the University) in the fields of naval architecture and scenography (DPEA), urban planning (Master) and architectural and urban environments Master, PhD).

About Centrale Nantes

Centrale Nantes is a French engineering school and member of the Ecoles Centrale Group. Its graduate, master and PhD programmes are based on the latest scientific and technological developments and the best management practices. Founded in 1919, Centrale Nantes' 40-acre campus welcomes 2320 students, including 1550 graduate students, 150 Executive Education and degree apprenticeship students, 240 PhD students and 380 Master and Advanced Master students.

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