

# Welcome foreign and French researchers Science Accueil's letter October 2009

Dear Friends,

Science Accueil is glad to inform you with its latest news to help you to facilitate your stay.

#### Do you have difficulties when undertaking administrative procedures with "prefectures"?

Science Accueil is in contact with the different préfecture of our region in order to assist researchers and PhD students with their administrative procedures. In particular, we are regularly in contact with the « correspondants-chercheurs » in charge of the requests from scientists.

In order to facilitate your administrative procedures with these administrations, we need to have a better understanding of the difficulties you may face. Please share with us any experience of obstacle standing in your way: preparing residence permits' requests, communicating with the "correspondants-chercheurs" in prefectures, etc. It will then be easier to work on improving researchers' welcome in our area.

# Saturday, October 10th, 2009: bilingual guided tour to discover the Parisian bridges, organized for all researchers and their family

On the agenda: walking tour around *l'île de la Cité* and *l'île Saint-Louis* with comments on the bridges and the main sites of the area: Palais de justice, Notre-Dame...

There are still places available for this visit that will take place on Saturday 10th from 2:30 pm.

Price: 10 euros per person, free of charge for children under 16

In order to register, please send to <a href="mailto:contact@science-accueil.org">contact@science-accueil.org</a> the answering coupon which you can download on our website: <a href="http://www.science-accueil.org/uk/direct-infos/tourism-and-spare-time-a.html">http://www.science-accueil.org/uk/direct-infos/tourism-and-spare-time-a.html</a>

# French language courses are starting again!

French language courses are starting again in Orsay and Bures at the very beginning of October and in Evry at the beginning of November. Every phD students and researchers willing to learn French or improve their skills in French are welcome to participate.

For more details, please see our web site:

http://www.science-accueil.org/uk/news.html?actu\_id\_8=10&actu\_page\_8=1

### Beginning of activities for spouses who do not work

**AVF** of Bures-Gif-Orsay offer spouses of scientists free in the day time sessions for conversations in French, on Tuesday and Friday from 2 to 4 pm at the address of the French organizer. Contact: <a href="mailto:francoise.quinot-busigny@wanadoo.fr">francoise.quinot-busigny@wanadoo.fr</a> or <a href="mailto:che.kris@yahoo.fr">che.kris@yahoo.fr</a>

For the mums who have non-schooled children, AVF also offers regular meetings with other mums in order to get to know each other, share good addresses and experience, and organize common activities. Meetings take place on Thursdays from 9:45 to 11:30 am. Contacts: <a href="mailto:francine.mathern@gmail.com">francine.mathern@gmail.com</a> or isabellesegretain@yahoo.fr

# Thursday, 26th of November 2009: Forum and welcome cocktail party in Orsay

Our traditional forum and welcome cocktail will take place on Thursday November, 26th in Orsay, You are cordially invited with your family.

In one place only, you will find cultural, tourist and leisure information. During our cocktail that will follow the forum, you will have the opportunity to meet with other researchers and French laboratory heads but also with local personalities and owners who are used to hosting researchers.

Official invitations will be sent out in November but you can register straightaway.

#### We also offer to you:

## A personalized assistance to get through formalities

In order to help your quest researchers to get through their formalities (visa, residency permit, work permit, taxes, health insurance, bank account, schooling or nursing, etc), please do not hesitate to contact Sandra Richard (contact@science-accueil.org) in Orsay or Virginie Chabbert (evry@scienceaccueil.org) in Evry.

#### Help for housing

With our database of 2.500 furnished accommodation (rooms in the owner's house, one-bedroom apartment, apartments or houses), mainly located along the B, C, and D train lines (RER) or in Paris downtown, we can help you to find the most appropriate accommodation. Please feel free to contact us: contact@science-accueil.org

#### Cultural visits and activities

We organize social activities for you with our local partners. For more details, please click here: http://www.science-accueil.org/uk/direct-infos/tourism-and-spare-time-a.html For registration, please contact us (contact@science-accueil.org).

#### French courses for Researchers

In partnership with ALFAP we offer guest researchers and their spouses French classes of all levels in Orsay and Bures-sur-Yvette, and in Evry.

Information: ALFAP - contact@alfap.net - Phone: 09 54 97 18 59

In partnership with ILEI (ex-CEREL), the language centre of Versailles Saint-Quentin University, Science Accueil offers a distance language training.

This distance language training combines self-training based on an online language software with a customized training program followed up by a teaching adviser.

For more details please click here: http://www.science-accueil.org/uk/direct-infos/french-courses.html.

#### We are here to help you and to make you feel like home

Sincerely. Science Accueil staff Corinne Ollé, manager Jocelyne Dumont, accommodation service Sandra Richard, administrative procedures service Virginie Chabbert, in charge of Science Accueil Evry Angélique Rousseau, assistant

#### **Science Accueil**

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