

Call for Applications

Application deadline: 15 April 2019
to chaire.cnous@ensad.fr
Appointment period:
June 2019 to May 2022

Chair Studio 21

Transformation
of Student Life
in the 21st Century



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Aware that student housing and lifestyles were major subjects of 20th-century architecture and design, and continue to be so in the 21st century, CNOUS/Crous and EnsAD have decided to join forces to create a three-year teaching and research chair focusing on the transformations of student life through its living and working spaces: housing, shared and private spaces, and dining venues.

The very name of the chair is suggestive in that the word studio, like the word design, comes to French from Italian and English, and means “study, a place to study.” Bearing many meanings, it can indicate a one-room apartment or a workshop for creating, which is to say the places where students live and work.

The Chair’s work will be to respond to the transformations in the sector by anticipating future developments and defining actions to bring them about through scenarios (simulations, models, publications) and concrete experiments (prototypes, tests).

This call for applications aims to recruit a designer responsible for developing, animating, and monitoring this major project.

The launch of the Chair will be announced publicly during a press conference in Montpellier, France, on 14 May 2019. Work will begin in June 2019 and end in May 2022.

Theme and Issues

Student life is changing fast. The Chair will endeavor to respond to the challenges presented by those changes and to anticipate future developments. Drawing on the expertise of the professors, students, and researchers at EnsAD and the institutional and economic actors of the sector (Crous, in particular), the mission of the Chair will be to imagine and design innovative approaches and bold proposals through real-time, real-space experiments, prototypes, exhibitions designed to result in publications, but also to invent models that can be transferred to other fields.

There are many types of observation that can serve as starting points: modulation of uses linked to lodging; reimagining of borders between public and private uses; renewal of the resulting relationships between public spaces and housing (common areas, rooms, etc.); integration of digital practices into physical arrangements; reorganization of meals in relation to a general restructuring of lifestyles; a development of meal areas evolving toward “co-working” could take into account temporalities that were until recently distinct; the valorization of those moments could encourage encounters in a multicultural context; etc.

The demand for comfort and environmental considerations – new materials, sound-proofing, ease of circulation, eco-design – will be given heightened consideration in a holistic approach that is always focused on concrete and situated experiments. These demands must take into account the uses and ergonomics of staff who will implement and maintain them.

These concepts are not limiting and may in turn be questioned. Others are to be imagined. The designer will have to implement a multi-disciplinary approach.

Crous

Institution and field of experimentation

The mission of the Crous (Centre Regional des Oeuvres Universitaires et Scolaires) is to improve the daily living conditions of students. Regional offices provide students with comprehensive social support and manage financial aid granted to students.

Crous offices oversee more than 175,000 student lodgings in 750 university residences all over France. In addition, Crous services provide quality, low-cost meals to all students through 750 food service structures. Furthermore, with its various partners, Crous offices accompany student initiatives, offer high-quality cultural actions, and lead a proactive policy to energize and animate student life venues.

Crous offices are a unique network of 27 public institutions throughout France (network website: etudiant.gouv.fr) that will provide an exceptional field for the activities of the Chair.

The Chair will disseminate design and innovation culture within Crous and, reciprocally, professionalize EnsAD students involved in the project: adherence to specifications and uses, budget constraints, project management, management of relations with other actors, integration of related aspects such as intellectual property, etc. This process of reciprocal acculturation may be the subject of promotional actions in the broad sense of appropriation of new skills; valorization of results; publicizing...

Observatory of uses

The Observatoire des pratiques et anticipation en logement étudiant (OPALE - Observatory of Practices and Anticipation in Student Housing), created in March 2018 at the initiative of the Crous network to better analyze lifestyles in university residences and resulting uses, will contribute to the proper functioning of this Chair by organizing around new university partnerships. It will document developments in the field of student life by calling upon several disciplines in the humanities and social sciences – in particular sociology, anthropology, economics, managements, and information and communications sciences. The Chair may take part in these observations and will be informed by studies carried out within the context of the Observatory.

Crous website: www.etudiant.gouv.fr

Présentation

The École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs (EnsAD) is a public institution of higher education under the French Ministry of Culture with a mission to provide high-level artistic, scientific, and technical training for artists and designers and to carry out research. It enrolls nearly 830 students from France and abroad and grants Master's 2 level degrees while also offering third cycle (doctoral level) training.

A place of intellectual, creative, and artistic vitality for more than 250 years, EnsAD consists of ten departments: Interior Architecture, Art, Animation, Graphic Design, Product Design, Textile and Texture Design, Fashion Design, Printed Image, Photography/Video, and Stage Design.

The School's research laboratory, EnsadLab, is structured around 8 research groups covering the fields of art and design and conducts interdisciplinary research projects with public and private partners.

EnsAD is an associate institution of PSL University (Paris Sciences & Lettres). As such, it is co-piloting the SACRe program (Sciences, Arts, Creation, Research), the ambition of which is to train a new generation of researchers in art and design. It has therefore also embarked on ambitious training and research programs like the Chair Arts & Sciences, supported by the Fondation Daniel & Nina in partnership with the École Polytechnique.

EnsAD is a member of a broad network of international associations and is developing relationships with 128 art and design schools around the world.

EnsAD website: www.ensad.fr

2nd Cycle

Of the ten specializations taught at the school, the following five are in principle closely related to the activities of the Chair:

Object Design	industrial design, furniture for housing and community, service design, communicating objects;
Interior Architecture	conception of new living spaces, at the crossroads of plastic and technical arts, depending on social context;
Stage Design	possible mobilization of all expressive forms in the service of a dramaturgy between space and narration;
Multimedia Graphic Design	typography, multi-media publishing, graphic identification systems, signage, information design, and service design;
Textile and Texture Design	from the textile to its creative use by integrating technical, industrial, and economic constraints.

The activities of the Chair should also remain open to students in other departments, depending on the proposed projects.

3rd Cycle / EnsadLab

3rd cycle instruction is structured around two main entities: EnsadLab, the EnsAD research laboratory, and the PSL SACRe (Sciences Arts Creation and Research) program. It is open to artists and designers from around the world with a master's level degree and wishing to pursue a doctorate. The program, launched in 2007 and recognized now as a model internationally, is part of a strategy unique in France to offer a doctoral level degree within a school of art and design in order to train a new generation of artists and designers in research.

Numerous national and international research partnerships with public laboratories and private structures are underway.

In this context, the student-researchers of EnsadLab are encouraged to develop their research as part of collaborative projects in order to acquire skills complementary to the initial curriculum; to explore new methodologies; to test novel hypotheses; to learn to work with scientists; and to propose solutions to various contemporary problems. All of these involve inventing new forms (relational, technological, aesthetic, social).

For the 2018-2019 academic year, forty student-researchers are enrolled in the eight thematic research groups of EnsadLab, each one led by EnsAD professors, researchers, and designers. More than thirty artists, designers, and renowned experts contribute throughout the year. Activities are structured along three axes: materials/interactions/environments.

EnsadLab website: www.ensadlab.fr

Université PSL

EnsAD is a member of Université Paris Sciences & Lettres (PSL), which has world-class science departments, leading engineering schools, the main French humanities and social sciences departments, a leading institution in decision science research, as well as five of the world's most renowned art schools. PSL is one of the world's top 50 universities.

EnsAD has been involved since 2011 in building this new model of university of research and creation in which the arts and their teaching are inseparable, including through high-level interdisciplinary programs like the new SACRe (Sciences, Arts, Creation, Research) doctorate in art, the vocation of which is to bring together artists, designers, and scientists, and of which the doctoral students of EnsadLab are members. EnsAD co-directs the doctoral program as well as the laboratory of the same name recognized by the French Ministry of Education and Research (MENESR).

PSL makes possible numerous collaborations among its different components and schools, thereby creating a privileged environment for EnsAD projects.

PSL and SACRe websites: www.psl.eu et www.sacre.psl.eu

A designer with experience in projects related to the theme of the Chair, and able to lead an interdisciplinary and multi-sectoral team and to interact with institutional actors.

Means and Methods of Work

(for information, flexible depending on the selected project)

The person hired for the Chair will receive a monthly salary to complement their main income. Terms and amount of compensation will depend on the profile and experience of the individual. The weekly workload associated with this function is estimated at two to three days (negotiable) from September 2019 to May 2022.

In addition to the technical means (access to workshops, use of equipment...) made available by the school (see below), an operating budget will be provided to implement the various actions planned. That budget includes:

- production (models, prototypes and experiments);
- animation (workshops);
- grants to support educational projects;
- missions (travel, lodging);
- communication expenses (publications, blog, website)

Additional public and private partnerships are possible in consultation with the Crous and EnsAD.

Work Methods at EnsAD

The activities of the Chair will be integrated with the 2^{ne} and 3rd cycle courses and existing research programs.

The designer will thus work in close collaboration with various EnsAD services, in particular the offices of the Dean of Studies and the Dean of Research, as well as relevant Crous teams.

She or he will be responsible for a group of master's and doctoral students who will be co-supervised by the professors and researchers at the school associated with the project.

Schedule

1. Preparation period starting in June 2019:

- Define the scope and organizational arrangements of the project in

Determine a calendar of the various activities and reports of the Chair: interim biannual accounts that can take the form of reports, presentations of models, exhibitions, public experiments, etc.

2. Operational launch of the Chair in October 2019.

Selection procedure

The procedure for selecting the successful candidate will take place in two phases:

1. Examination of application files

The application file must contain the following elements:

- CV
- cover letter
- statement of intent of no more than three pages
- portfolio

Applications must be submitted via email to the Director of EnsAD and the President of the CNOUS at this address: chaire.cnous@ensad.fr

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2. Interviews with pre-selected candidates

Pre-selected candidates will be interviewed during the last week of April by a jury of representatives of EnsAD and the Crous network along with external personalities.

Important note: the official launch of the Chair will take place on May 14 during the salon "Crous: Campus Home", the first housing fair of the Crous network, to be held in Montpellier. A press conference will be held, during which the successful candidate will be introduced. Applicants are therefore requested to reserve that date, and to report any conflicts when their application is submitted.

Contact and information: chaire.cnous@ensad.fr