



LASCARBX

1. Noteworthy productions

1.1. Outstanding progress regarding research

The research covers highly relevant and internationally well-recognized topics. The Labex – uniting three research units at the University of Bordeaux – made an excellent progress and achieved a number of remarkable scientific results concerning its projects, which are conducted in three research axes. The Gascon rolls project as well as the Neanderthal project are among the ones which have to be highlighted. The report and the oral presentation have been fully persuasive for its success.

1.2 Striking progress in other “Labex” fields

a. Formation

The Labex offers a convincing training programme as outlined in the scientific report. Due to administrative difficulties between the Bordeaux Montaigne University and the University of Bordeaux it was not yet possible to set up a specific Master`s degree as previously planned. However, existing programmes (AUSONIUS and PACEA) largely cover those needs and the Labex supports MA students by funding traineeships. Furthermore, a number of Ph.D. fellowships have been granted within running Labex projects.

b. Valorization

The Labex established an impressive number of interdisciplinary partnerships both at a local, regional and international level. Collaboration has been established with scholarly institutions as well as with numerous private companies taking up technological innovations (e.g. an industrial prototype for a fluorescence micro-spectrometer). Furthermore the initiatives and the research of LASCARBX have a very positive impact on local as well as regional activities concerning touristic aspects. A newsletter, workshops and exhibitions were conducted for the broader public and provide an excellent insight into all aspects of the conducted research. The website is excellently designed and is also – in its internal part – a perfect platform for scholarly discussions. The academic impact is remarkable and two members of the Labex are among the 3000 most cited researchers in the world – across all disciplines.

c. International (outreach, attraction, networking...)

Labex has a wide range of international partners, 19 (out of 31 funded) projects are based upon new or renewed international partnerships in different regions of the world. Furthermore, many scholars participate on a regular basis in international conferences and are involved in a worldwide network concerning their specific expertise/skills. Great attractiveness of Labex is underlined not only by well-known international visiting scholars but also by the number of international applicants for offered positions at Bordeaux.

2. Added-value resulting from labelling and funding as a “Laboratoire d’Excellence”

The collaboration of the 3 labs working in the field of archaeology as well as many activities were very much supported and in effect only made possible by the Labex funding. The status offered also a significant increase in national as well as international attractiveness.

3. Main weaknesses

3.1. Main weaknesses that might require corrective actions regarding the research performed in the “Labex”

No corrective actions are required concerning the actual research.

3.2 Main weaknesses that might require corrective actions regarding other fields of the “Labex”

a. Formation

No corrective actions are required concerning other fields of the “Labex”.

b. Valorization

No corrective actions are required.

c. International (outreach, attraction, networking...)

No corrective actions are required.

4. “Labex” contribution to structuring the gathered scientific strengths (governance, synergy, common scientific programming, visibility...)

This Labex unites 3 UMRs of the University of Bordeaux. It unites a large range of complementary skills related to archaeological research and training. It considerably helps to strengthen collaborative actions through an excellent governance structure.

5. Beyond scientific results specifically obtained by the “Labex”, give an assessment on its contribution to the development, outreach and overall visibility of the concerned institutions and of the corresponding site.

This Labex is with no doubt a centre of excellence at Bordeaux. It unites three UMRs and offers the different archeological fields a very good platform for collaborative research. The excellent research as well as the numerous activities by Labex which address and involve the local as well regional communities raise the visibility of Bordeaux as an outstanding place for university education and research.

6. Overall opinion and recommendations

The Labex has been making excellent progress. It is obvious that it could build on an already very active and excellent scholarly community at Bordeaux which thanks to Labex support developed a significant new dynamic. The Labex is very well established and professionally run by a very efficient organizational structure. The recruitment policy is convincingly handled.

The chosen research topics allow a wide range of most interesting research activities. Interdisciplinarity and internationalization are integral aspects of most of the projects.

Until now 29 projects have been funded through 4 internal calls, covering the topics of the 3 axes of the scientific programme. A number of them already produced remarkable outcomes. Most projects are based upon international partnerships and demonstrate the overall excellent international visibility of the Labex.

The Labex is well integrated in local and regional activities and being a driving force in many aspects of research and its dissemination into the broader public. The outlook and future plans are most attractive and will certainly help to further highlight Bordeaux as an excellent place for archaeological research in all its interdisciplinary aspects, meeting the highest international competitive standards.