



INSTITUTE for
ADVANCED
STUDY in
TOULOUSE

Knowledge across frontiers

ANTHROPOLOGY + BIOLOGY + ECONOMICS + HISTORY + LAW
+ PHILOSOPHY + POLITICAL SCIENCE + PSYCHOLOGY + SOCIOLOGY

The ambitious goal of this interdisciplinary research institute is to break down artificial disciplinary boundaries, bringing together researchers from all over the world trained in the different social sciences in order to facilitate cross fertilisation, unlock new ideas and explore questions of central importance to human society in the 21st century.



Board Members

Paul Seabright

Director



Jean Tirole

President of the Executive Committee
Nobel Prize in Economics 2014



Patrick Bolton

Chairman



Over its four years of existence, the IAST has made the transition from being a wholly unknown start-up to being a credible research institute with a growing international reputation and a novel way of working.

Our first year involved a lot of fascinating seminar and conference activity, but there were real questions over whether we could recruit top-quality resident researchers. We now have a population of eighteen resident Research Fellows, five Program Directors and five long-term Visiting Fellows. We also have 40 other IAST members, mostly working in the Toulouse region, covering nine disciplines from anthropology to sociology.

Most importantly of all, the different disciplines talk to each other - that was the hard bit to predict! And the award of the Nobel Prize in Economics to our founder and President of our Executive Committee Jean Tirole is about as spectacular a highlight as we could wish for.

We have to establish long-term secure funding. And we have to persuade the world's most gifted young scholars that the disciplinary boundaries established in universities in the twentieth century are not necessarily the best way to divide up our thinking to help answer the most pressing questions of the twenty-first.

Paul Seabright
IAST Director

Director's message

Themes and disciplines

The themes outlined here provide an indication of the kinds of question that represent the most fruitful areas of interdisciplinary collaboration within the IAST.

Our current disciplines of study:

- ANTHROPOLOGY
- BIOLOGY
- ECONOMICS
- HISTORY
- LAW
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICAL SCIENCE
- PSYCHOLOGY
- SOCIOLOGY

The themes and disciplines listed are not exhaustive and evolve as we develop our own research, both individually and collectively.

We welcome contributions to this evolving process from both our current community of researchers and those who would like to join us in the future.



Key Figures

9 Disciplines

40 Seminars
per year

5 Conferences
per year

50+ international
visitors per year

The IAST's 5 Program Directors:



Ingela Alger
Biology



Mohamed Saleh
History



Simone Sepe
Law



Karine Van Der Straeten
Political Science



Astrid Hopfensitz
Psychology






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