

**Le Président**

April 30, 2009

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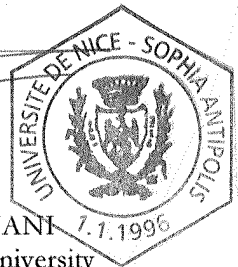
To whom it may concern,

The University of Nice-Sophia Antipolis (UNS) will actively participate in the joint programme "Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorate (EMJD) in Relativistic Astrophysics" as the Coordinating Organisation. Thanks to many Ph.D., I am aware that UNS is involved in its application.

The Doctoral School "Sciences Fondamentales et Appliquées" (ED.SFA: Fundamental and Applied Sciences), ED364, has had a wide experience in cosupervision of Ph.D. thesis since its beginning in 2000. Since then, a total of 38 Ph.D. thesis under co-direction, based either in the Partner Institution or directly in-house, have been engaged. Of these, 21 are active, meaning that the international engagement is alive and growing steadily. Because of the ED.SFA's geographical location, Italy has always been a strong partner with 11 Ph.D. thesis already defended and 9 underway. As part of the French requirements for a Ph.D., a variety of courses are offered divided in 3 different groups: general background, specialty courses and professional courses. The former aim at broadening the knowledge of our students and are directly organized by the ED.SFA, whereas for specialty courses, UNS supports Summer Schools and similar initiatives. For professional courses, the "College des Etudes Doctorales" (Federation of the Doctoral Schools of the UNS) has developed a very strong offer with the help of professionals who typically intervene in the private sector with a similar offer.

The University of Nice-Sophia Antipolis will be engaged in providing all necessary support for this joint programme.

Sincerely yours,

  
  
Pr Albert MAROUANI 1.1.1996  
President of UNS University