Nantes Université: excellent, open, sustainable

Nantes Université

4 Colleges

- Humanities
- Health Science
- Science & Technology
- Societies

6 Members

Component Institutions

École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Nantes

Centrale Nantes

École des Beaux-Arts de Nantes Saint-Nazaire

Associates

CHU de Nantes

IRT Jules Verne

Special Cooperation Agreement

INSERM

2 External Component Institutions

INSPÉ

OSUNA

An **innovative** university model

Nantes Université is a higher education and research institute that offers **a unique, globally-ranked university model in France.** It brings together a university organised into faculties, three 'grandes écoles' (Centrale Nantes, École des Beaux-Arts Nantes Saint-Nazaire, and École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Nantes), a university hospital (CHU de Nantes), a technological research institute (IRT Jules Verne), and a national research body (Inserm).

By pooling the strengths and resources of these key players, Nantes Université can **address the challenges posed by the major transitions at work in society.** Nantes Université is committed to providing excellent conditions for study and work for all students and staff, to foster their personal growth across its campuses in Nantes, Saint-Nazaire, and La Roche-sur-Yon.

Values

Excellence

at the service of society

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Opening up

knowledge to society
and the world

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Sustainability

to help attain the United Nations'
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Key figures

42,500

students, including 5,000
international students

5,732

staff members, including
2,605 administrative
and technical staff

3,147

teaching and research staff

541

tutors

1,259

doctoral students

42

research units

The Nantes Université project

Developed as part of a participative process in 2022, the consultation obtained input from nearly 600 staff and students.

Training and open education

Nantes Université is committed to the academic success of its diverse students and aims to make the knowledge produced by the establishment accessible to the greatest number. This commitment is reflected through an **ambitious, open and inclusive, initial and continuous training policy** completely in line with the challenges of socio-ecological transitions.

Research and open science

Multidisciplinary, Nantes Université promotes **cross-disciplinary collaboration,** supports research in a wide range of areas, accompanies the emergence of innovative projects and explores novel subject areas that **address current societal issues.** It is committed to open science to ensure that **scientific data is accessible to all levels of society.**

2 key areas of research

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Health of the future

The upcoming completion of a **new university hospital and healthcare district** in Nantes by the end of 2027 marks a **significant milestone in the development and impact of the city** and Nantes Université. This large-scale project places the health of the future at the heart of the city and provides a pleasant future environment tailored for patients, visitors, students, and healthcare professionals. The new complex is a **response to the challenges of excellence in healthcare in the future** and sets the stage for what **the future of medicine** will look like - **one that is inclusive and innovative.**

Industry of the future

Academic research on the industry of the future at Nantes Université covers simultaneously **cutting-edge production technologies, the digitalisation of businesses, industrial organisation efficiency, the carbon-free industry and the role of humans in industry.** Over 600 teacher-researchers are honing their expertise in subject fields as varied as robotics, additive manufacturing, renewable marine energies, new materials, manufacturing and assembly processes, green chemistry, artificial intelligence and data valorisation.

Innovation

Nantes Université implements **a policy of environmentally responsible, sustainable and open innovation which helps to address pressing social challenges.** This approach contributes to the economic and social development of the region, supports the entrepreneurship's culture, facilitates the transfer of research results to the business world and society, and develops participative, partnership-oriented experiments.

Scientific mediation

Nantes Université has long been committed to **strengthening the ties between science and society** in a region known to be very dynamic in the field of scientific mediation. It offers a **comprehensive knowledge-sharing initiative,** encouraging the implication of its researchers in the public domain and the **development of partnerships** with the stakeholders involved in the area.

Europe and international

The European and international policy of Nantes Université seeks **to develop cooperation** on the challenges of training, research, and innovation, and **exchange knowledge to promote the progress on societal challenges,** especially in the European area. Our goal is also to enhance the global appeal of our **training programmes overseas** and create **mobility opportunities** for students and faculty members.

Graduate schools

Graduate schools aim to provide a variety of 2nd and 3rd cycle programmes that offer a 5-year training path focused on research. Thanks to this **high-level training backed by excellent research,** these bodies aim to equip our PhD graduates with the necessary skills to become influential contributors to the development of society.

University and campus life

Nantes Université implements a campus life policy that is common across all its sites, while also tailored to each individual location, fostering strong relationships with both staff and the student community. This policy prioritises the principles of **quality of life** (studying and working), **openness and inclusion, civic engagement, sustainable campuses and solidarity.**

Sustainable development

Nantes Université is committed at its own level to attaining the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). **The socio-ecological transition issues are challenging and shaping its academic activities** (training, research, innovation), **leading it to reconsider its operations, and setting up new forms of collective action,** resulting in a ripple effect with stakeholders.

Budget, human resources and social dialogue

The human resources policy of Nantes Université contributes to **the constant improvement of working conditions** and gives priority to the **well-being** of all. In terms of budget, resource allocation for faculties, components, research labs, and departments is based on **principles of fairness, transparency and visibility.**

Responsible digital technology

Given the intricate nature of the digital shift affecting every aspect of society, hastened and intensified by the health crisis, Nantes Université is spearheading a **digital revolution** that addresses three essential principles: **social, ecological, and ethical.**

Open governance

Nantes Université is committed to **enhancing representative democracy and fostering participatory democracy** within the institution. **Transparency, openness, participation, and collaboration** are essential principles that guide the effective functioning of the institution and its governance.

University democracy mission: a unique feature of Nantes Université

Created in 2020 as an independent mission within the institution, its objectives are to **strengthen democracy within the university;** experiment with new forms of participation and decision-making to **increase community involvement; strengthen representative democracy and the role of elected representatives; and lead scientific reflection** on university democracy. This mission may be referred to by any elected body or designated authority within Nantes Université. It is headed by Arnauld Leclerc, Professor of Political Science.
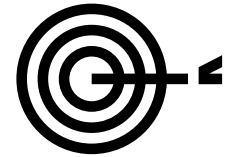
Structuring labels

Label:
European universities

Project: EUniWell Alliance

Date awarded: 2020

Funding: €22.7 million

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Nantes Université has joined forces with 10 universities to create a **European University for Well-Being:** EUniWell. This consortium, selected by the European Commission in 2020 as part of the ERASMUS + programme, collaborates extensively in the fields of education, research, innovation and campus life on the challenges of well-being.

Label:
Initiatives for Science, Innovation, Territories and Economy (I-SITE)

Project: NExT (Nantes Excellences Trajectory) Project

Date awarded: 2022

Funding: €10 million (renewed every year)

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The NExT project led by Nantes Université was awarded the I-site label in 2022. It is based on two key areas of research, **health of the future and industry of the future,** with a ripple effect on all the disciplines and a strong involvement of human and social sciences. It aims to **confirm an innovative research, training and technological transfer path** supported by ambitious campus life policies and international attractiveness.

Label:
Pôle Universitaire d'Innovation (PUI)

Project: PUI Nantes Université

Date awarded: 2023

Funding: €6.2 million

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Awarded in July 2023, the PUI label aims to **promote and accelerate the use of research results** through an ambitious policy favouring innovation and the creation of deep-tech startups. The project's ambitions are to confirm the key role of Nantes' public research in societal challenges in terms of innovation and entrepreneurship, and develop and structure a global offering of multidisciplinary skills and technologies serving the region's economic development.
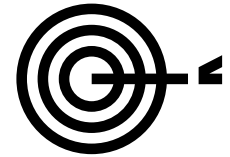
Structuring labels

Label:
ExcellencES

Project: Ouverture Project

Date awarded: 2023

Funding: €23.4 million

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The Ouverture project, led by Nantes Université in partnership with 25 academic, socio-economic and institutional players, was awarded the ExcellencES label in 2023. Committed to **making knowledge a common good,** it addresses 4 major challenges: **open education, open innovation, science with and for society, and democracy.** It will enable the experimentation of openness as a new academic paradigm and a guiding principle for collective action, and develop innovative, society-oriented cooperative ventures in the region.

Label:
Structuration de la Formation par la Recherche dans les Initiatives d'Excellence (SFRI)

Project: Triton Project

Date awarded: 2019

Funding: €12 million

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The Triton project aims to turn a **training offering into a higher education model in line with international standards** through the creation of Graduate Schools and the implementation of Graduate Programmes.

Label:
Nouveaux Cursus à l'Université (NCU)

Project: Neptune Project

Date awarded: 2019

Funding: €9.7 million

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A true institutional project, **student success is at the heart of our training policy** thanks to the Neptune project, in which Nantes Université has been a prizewinner since 2019, and which aims to transform the Bachelor's Degree cycle **to ensure that students are active players in their training.**

Two UNESCO Education and Research Chairs

"Practice of Philosophy with Children" Chair

Coordinated by Edwige Chirouter, this chair concerns the teaching of philosophy to young children to help them develop their critical thinking skills more quickly.

"Open Educational Resources (OER) and Artificial Intelligence (AI)" Chair

Steered by Colin de la Higuera and part of the Nantes Université Ouverture process, this chair aims to rethink the distribution of educational resources in the age of Open Educational Resources (OER) and Artificial Intelligence (AI).