And here we are, another new school year has started! For IFP School, it is marked by the beginning of a new, even more international, academic year which is good news but which also reflects, unfortunately, fewer excellant French applicants. I am therefore counting on you, valued alumni, to help us in our promotion efforts to reach young people in French schools. The start of the new academic year at IFP School is also marked by two new center directors, Frédérique Foumier (GDL 1994) for the Georesources and Energy field, and Maxime Schenckery, for the Energy Economics and Management field. I’ll leave you to read about their career path. A warm welcome to them and no doubt they will contribute a lot to the many projects underway at the school.

Perhaps more surprisingly, a scientific advisor to the IFP School management has been appointed, like in some IF PEN research divisions, in order to enhance the value of the research done at the school, and to make the link with the IF PEN scientific management. One of Olivier Mazzol’s missions (IEGE 2001) will be to lead the community of teacher-researchers and stakeholders to improve IFP School’s visibility and awareness on new themes. It should also be noted that a new Electricity Management and Digitalization chair has been launched by Arash Farroop (IEM 2009).

The start of the school year also sees, as planned, the launch of a new MOOC, on the mobility of tomorrow. Under no circumstances should you miss this time travel with a mad scientist!

Have a good start to the school year and enjoy your reading.

Christine Travers
Dean, IFP School
The class of 2019

The 294 new students of the 2019 class joined IFP School on September 3 in the 11 applied industrial graduate programs. A stable number compared to the 2018 promotion, with the same scope of consolidation.

A resolutely multicultural year group

The 2019 class welcomes students from 46 different countries, excluding France. International students make up 53% of the total number and are particularly concentrated in English-language programs.

IFP School’s international outlook, ingrained in its very DNA, is illustrated this year by students from Brazil, Morocco, Nigeria, India, Lebanon, Argentina, China, Colombia - each with seven or more representatives.

The French engineering school most represented is ENGIC, with 11 students. The different INSA and schools of Mines also have a significant number of students.
Renewed support from industry

IFP School’s applied courses benefit from the school’s close ties with industry. This proximity is reflected this year in the fact that 90% of students receive financial support, either directly from a company or through institutions such as the Tuck Foundation.

Companies can support students at IFP School via three methods:
- apprenticeship, for courses alternating between study at the school and corporate placement
- sponsorship, via grants from the Tuck Foundation, thanks to corporate patronage
- secondment, for young professionals from the industry who join the school for a training program leading to a qualification.

This year, 67 companies are partners of IFP School and 7 of them support more than 8 students: Total, ExxonMobil, Renault, TechnipFMC, Aksa, PSA, Stoenery.

A quick look at the class of 2019

In engineering programs
- 47% French students
- 21% women
- 54% apprentices
- 8% professionals on secondment.

In addition, the 22 students of the 3rd session of the Petroleum Data Management specialized master's program also started their academic year on September 3. This program, in partnership with the École Nationale des Sciences Géographiques de Marine-la-Vallée, is making good progress this year, marked in particular by increased, but not sufficient, support from industry.

The students of the research masters in collaboration with universities started their studies in September.

In total, with programs provided through international partnerships, the 2019 class should have more than 450 students.

Appointments of Frédérique Fournier and Maxime Schenckery

Appointment of Frédérique Fournier

Frédérique Fournier has been appointed director of the Exploration Production center at IFP School, effective July 9, replacing Jean-Claude Heldmann, who had been seconded from Total to this position since 2013.

Frédérique Fournier has significant industrial experience in upstream oil and extensive knowledge of geosciences. She began her career as a research engineer at Elf Aquitaine Production, before joining IFP Energies nouvelles where she was head of the seismic characterization project for reservoirs and head of the Geomechanics department. Over the past ten years, Frédérique has worked in various positions at Beicip-Franlab, including president of the Middle East subsidiary, IFPMEC and as project director.

Frédérique Fournier is an engineer from ENSG Nancy and IFP School. She also holds a doctorate from the Institut Polytechnique de Lorraine and is qualified to lead research. Since 1987, she has been involved in teaching activities with various institutions: CNAM, ENSG, IFP School and IFP Training. Frédérique has also been an expert with ANDRA since 1999 and is the author of numerous international publications and patents.

Appointment of Maxime Schenckery

Maxime Schenckery has been appointed director of the Economics and Management center, effective September 3, replacing Nadine Bret-Rouzaud who is about to retire.

He has more than 20 years of experience in the energy sector.

PhD in Economics from the French University of Paris-Nord, Maxime held various positions from 1995 to 2002, including project manager at Schlumberger Industry and mission director of benchmarking services at Ernst & Young. From 2002 to 2008, he joined IFP School where he was a professor and coordinated the Petroleum Economics and Management program.

From 2003 to 2010, on secondment from IFPEN, Maxime Schenckery was senior economic advisor at the French consulate in Houston, USA, where he participated in improving bilateral Franco-American relations in the energy sector. Then he joined Qatar Petroleum until 2015, as head of market analysis and forecast. Maxime Schenckery then headed ePwE Energy Research, a consulting and research firm where he contributed to various studies and research projects in Qatar and Saudi Arabia, including on the impacts of the Smart Cities concept on energy systems.
Last May, Olivier Massol, associate professor in Energy Economics, was appointed scientific advisor to Christine Travers, Dean of IFP School. He tells us more about this new role and his objectives.

The position of scientific advisor did not previously exist within the school: what motivated its creation?

To meet the challenges of energy transition and sustainable mobility, IFP School is constantly renewing its courses, in particular by introducing the advances resulting from scientific research. To achieve this, several teachers at the school, such as teacher-researchers, contribute to publications and scientific communications, or are involved in supervising doctoral projects. My function was created to promote this scientific activity, which is relatively unknown even though it contributes to IFPEN's influence, and to establish a link with the Institute’s scientific department. Conversely, IFPEN researcher-teachers contribute to the school’s programs, thus enhancing the Institute's expertise among students who will soon join the industry. It’s a symbolic operation!

What are your objectives and how is your job as a scientific assistant organized?

Going forward, IFP School aims to contribute even more to research by sharing one of its lesser known assets: its openness. The school welcomes many French and foreign experts from industry, academia and research institutes. Our interactions provide a favorable environment for the identification of relevant research topics that are aligned with IFPEN’s scientific objectives. Many of these topics could easily be financed, possibly by developing partnership research, for example through CIFRE theses or the creation of chairs. My role within the school is therefore to encourage interaction, to federate initiatives, and to support and facilitate their implementation in order to cultivate this scientific emulation.

Is research addressed in the teaching of students?

IFP School is a specialization school and the vast majority of our students are destined to enter the industry. However, research is influencing public debate and European bodies more than ever. That is why, in some programs, we sensitize our students and provide them with the tools to decipher scientific literature. We are also committed to supporting our students in this process because research can be valuable in answering their questions. Some of them then discover a vocation to continue on the doctoral path, in order to solve for example a key issue for the energy of tomorrow. Identifying these aspirations is part of the school's doctoral mission.

“Market Power and Spatial Arbitrage between Interconnected Gas Hubs”

Olivier Massol is the co-author of a new scientific publication in The Energy Journal.

The economic integration of the restructured wholesale markets for natural gas is considered an important policy goal in the European Union to ensure a secure supply of natural gas. In a new article published in a top-field journal (The Energy Journal), Olivier Massol, Associate Professor at IFP School, and Albert Banel-Estañol, Professor at City University of London, examine the economic efficiency of the spatial arbitrages carried out between two regional markets for wholesale natural gas in Europe. They develop an innovative methodology which is capable of breaking down the observed spatial price differences into factors such as transportation costs, transportation bottlenecks, and the imperfect nature of the competitive behavior of the arbitrageurs.

The article can be downloaded here.

A non-technical executive summary of that article is available here.

Discover the latest news from the Alumni Association

The Amicale welcomes new students from IFP School

As every year, the IFP School Alumni Association welcomed the new class of students as part of the discovery tour that opens integration week, from 3 to 7 September. The Amicale thus presented the various services of the association to its future members.

In addition, at the closing of the event on 7 September at Château de Valt-Mont, Jean Sentenac, President of the association, presented the “Solidarity” prize to the team with the highest score in the “Who Wants to be a Millionaire?” game, which covered the association's key figures and highlights.

Success of the Drinks & Network event at Station F

The Drinks & Network held on September 13 at Station F was a great success. More than 120 current and former students of IFP School, joined by entrepreneurs from the Arts & Matters Acceleration Incubator, gathered over a drink to exchange ideas.

As a reminder, the Drink & Network is a meeting designed to animate and strengthen the IFP School alumni network. It encourages links with young and future graduates in a relaxed atmosphere.

Discover the latest news from the school

Arrival of first batch of IFP School students

As every year, about twenty students joined the IFP School campus, just before their classmates, to follow intensive summer courses in English and French. These students also benefited from several cultural outings.

The program included visits of the Marais area of Paris and the Château de Vaux-le-Vicomte for the traditional photo competition. A great opportunity for new students to know each other and discover the rich environment in which their studies are taking place.
Integration Week 2018

For the start of the new term, IFP School organized its Integration week from 3rd to 7th September 2018 to introduce the school and its environment to the new students.

The whole IFP School community was present for the event: the school’s management team, the directors of centers, program supervisors, lecturers, administrative staff.

The week kicked off on Monday morning with a welcome speech by the Dean of the school Christine Travers. It continued with an orientation itinerary within the campus including for example a learning escape game, a sustainable development workshop and a social network photo call. The week wrapped up on Friday afternoon with an entertaining sports challenge at the Château de Ver-Mont. The day before, they were invited to a reception organized by the city of Rueil-Malmaison in the presence of its Mayor, Patrice Ollier.

We wish all students a year rich in learning and experience at IFP School!

MOOC Tomorrow’s Mobility: registrations are open!

As IFP School promised, the new free MOOC Tomorrow’s Mobility will be launched soon! It will run from 6 to 30 November. Registrations are already open: https://mooc.mobility.ifp-school.com/

Our project manager, Maria Thiouvent, our new head of the educational innovation department, Clément Caragne, and our designers are working on the final details to offer you a real journey back in time, alongside a mad scientist. Objectives: to allow you to acquire as much knowledge as possible about:
- the environmental and legislative framework that governs future technological developments;
- the advantages and disadvantages of electric and hybrid powertrain solutions to meet the needs and constraints of tomorrow’s mobility.

In line with IFP School’s professional training courses, the teachers and designers of this MOOC will offer you an innovative pedagogy focused on implementation:
- virtual reality: to immerse yourself in a connected vehicle and better understand its components
- serious gaming: to design an electric or hybrid powertrain yourself!

So don’t delay, register and talk about it. See you on November 5th to start this adventure!
A new academic year for the Executive Master of Management in Energy

Areesh Farnoosh, Program supervisor at IFP School and holder of the Electricty, Management and Digitalization chair, welcomed on September 10 the students of the Executive Master of Management in Energy organized jointly with BI Norwegian Business School-Oslo.

The objective of this program is to give future decision-makers and energy managers a good vision of the value chain, as well as an understanding of the interests and constraints of the various stakeholders: governments, companies and contractors, financial markets, NGOs.

Compatible with maintaining a professional activity, this program, taught in English, is intended for experienced professionals with a minimum of 4 years of higher education. More information here.

The SPE Student Chapter of IFP School

The International Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) has just awarded its Gold Standard Award at the ATCE® to the SPE Student Chapter of IFP School (class of 2018) for its dynamism and exceptional commitment. This is the third time that the SPE Student Chapter has won this award, after receiving it in 2013 and 2015. Pierre Racaud (class of 2017) won the SPE student competition of the European division 2019 in the Master category. The SPE also recently presented Jean-Pierre Deflandre, SPE's referent at IFP School, with the Regional Distinguished Achievement Award for Petroleum Engineering Faculty for South/Central/Eastern Europe. Congratulations!

Created in 1999, the SPE Student Chapter of IFP School is the oldest in France. Very active within the school, it aims to promote the exchange of technical knowledge through meetings with professionals in the energy sector. Currently being set up for 2018-2019, it brings together students mainly from the 4 programs in the field of georesources and energy.

In 2018, the SPE Student Chapter organized many activities around the theme of security, including a study tour to Abu Dhabi with participation in the SPE's International congress on HSSE and CSR aspects, the Reservoir Box Challenge, and various conferences led by decision-makers in the sector.

*Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition in Dallas, September 24-26, 2019