

A word of welcome from the director

May I warmly welcome you to our Doctoral School of Exact Sciences and their Applications. Doctoral schools were set up to improve visibility and coherence right across the system of Ph.D. programmes and to widen training received by Ph.D. students so as to lead them to greater openings, whether within the academic sphere or in the world of business. These schools offer the future Ph.D. graduate a solid framework of high-level scientific supervision and support as well as a preparation for getting into the workplace. Each Doctoral school is also responsible for monitoring and steering of Ph.D. graduates towards ongoing professionalisation.

Our Doctoral School federates several research teams in charge of training programmes and the individual career paths of Ph.D. students. The scientific strengths of the research centres in our Doctoral School are a guarantee of quality. Eight of the UPPA's research teams qualified for a subsidised Five-Year Contract (2016-2020) after being assessed by the French National Council for Assessment of Research and Higher Education, the *HCERES* (*Haut Conseil d'Evaluation de la Recherche et de l'Enseignement Supérieur*). A number of those research centres are also attached to France's renowned research organisations like the *CNRS*, the *INRA* and the *INRIA* as well as to international companies like *TOTAL*. This means that quality resources in the UPPA are being made available to enable our Ph.D. students to combine ongoing academic research with achievement in top-level international research missions, and lead them to careers that will best suit each student's individual needs.

Throughout your Ph.D. programme, we seek to help each doctoral student to build on a career plan by means of a wide range of courses favouring interdisciplinarity, business company relationships and international links, in particular at French-Spanish cross-border level which allows you to follow courses run jointly by the Doctoral schools of the UPPA and the University of the Basque Country.

We are at your service to help you acquire effective methodology for research, better manage your time, protect your work, present and disseminate it as well as placing it in a wider context, and think about your future from an international perspective. These are just a few of the practical objectives we can achieve together!

Anna CHROSTOWSKA

Director of the Doctoral School of Exact Sciences and their Applications (ED211)