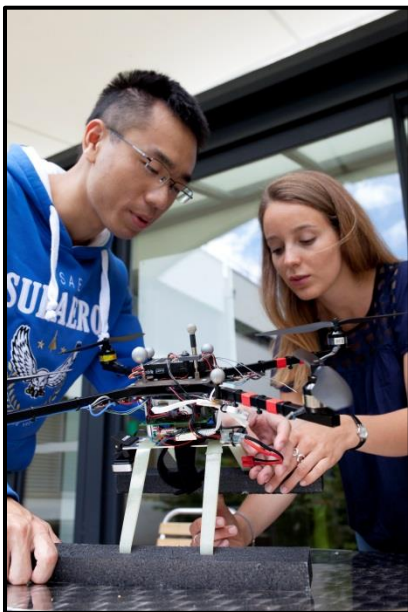


ISAE-SUPAERO recruits a record number of women in 2018

The World leader in aerospace engineering higher education has seen a sharp increase in recruitment. The Ingénieur ISAE-SUPAERO™ (MSc) program, ranked 5th in student preferences after the competitive exam for engineering schools in France, brought in 10% more students than last year. The Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering (MAE), a program taught in English that is mainly designed for foreign bachelor graduates, was up by 40%. The Institute is also proud of the growing feminization of its student body – the percentage of women reached 23 to 26.5%, depending on the program.



Two ISAE-SUPAERO students told us about their experiences in this high-tech sector. Read their stories below.

Promising figures

ISAE-SUPAERO recruited a total of 328 students for the 2018-2019 engineering program, or 37 more than the previous year. **These included 40 X students (Ecole polytechnique), which confirms ISAE-SUPAERO's status as the leading school for applications from X.** We can also point out the diversity of the profiles in our new student body, with students signing up for double degree programs through partnership agreements signed with HEC, Sciences Po and ESPCI.

Seeking to encourage equal opportunity in access to higher education, which the Institute notably defends through its OSE l'ISAE-SUPAERO diversity program and the ISA'Elles student association, ISAE-SUPAERO is pleased to welcome nearly one-quarter of women among its new recruits, whereas they accounted for less than 20% in previous years.

In terms of diversity, the Institute also had an increase in the number of international students, with some 21% for the engineering program, 35% for the Advanced Masters programs and over 90% for the Master of Science, bringing the percentage of international students to nearly 40% of the students recruited this summer.

ISAE-SUPAERO is well on its way toward achieving the targets set in the 2017-21 Objectives and Performance Contract signed at the end of 2016 with the French Government, to consolidate its position as a world leader in aerospace engineering higher education.

Sharp increase in women in the student body

The new women at the Institute notably include two committed students from original backgrounds. **Victoria Da Poian**, at just 22, has always dreamed of becoming an astronaut and came to ISAE-SUPAERO in 2015. Victoria was the first woman to be included in the missions for simulating life on Mars carried out in Utah in February 2017, and then again in February 2018. This student was also the first woman to spend an academic semester at the prestigious Bauman University in Russia. *“This was a very enriching experience that enabled me to become nearly bilingual in Russian, which is indispensable for me to make my dream come true by perhaps becoming an astronaut. My stay in Russia was hard though, as the mentalities are not at all the same as in France. In Russia, it is rare for a girl to follow scientific studies,”* Victoria explained.

This fall, she undertook her last year on campus, a year of specialization in sectors she has a passion for – designing spatial objects and neuroergonomics (man-machine interfaces). She was chosen by the CNES to represent ISAE-SUPAERO at the International Astronautical Congress in Bremen, Germany in October.

In terms of associations, Victoria is concerned with helping her school to develop equal opportunity. She represents her student body at the OSE L’ISAE-SUPAERO diversity program developed by ISAE-SUPAERO. *“I like to help young people who want to get ahead and inspire people’s dreams by sharing my experience and my passion.”* Victoria is also very active as a volunteer for the ISA’ELLES days organized by the club of the same name at the school that focuses on nurturing vocations among middle school and high school students.

Maéleonn Lemaître came to ISAE-SUPAERO in 2017 for an Advanced Master® in *Aerospace Project Management* after undergraduate studies at INSA Brittany. This high-level athlete, vice-world champion in team sailing and champion of France, has managed to combine demanding studies with equally demanding training.

“I have been attracted by the aeronautics field since high school. But I had to go to a preparatory school before getting into ISAE-SUPAERO and I didn’t want to give up sailing. So I went to INSA Brittany, where I earned a degree in mechanical engineering before coming to ISAE-SUPAERO for an Advance Master®.”

Maéleonn’s schedule has been totally customized to enable her to combine high-level training and demanding studies. She can thus go to her training sessions in Brest or Le Havre with peace of mind.

Currently on a project management internship at SNCF, Maéleonn would like to turn her passion into her profession. *“Mechanically, an airplane or a boat work the same way! I discovered off-shore racing – the boats they use are truly magical on the technical level. Today I realize the opportunities my vice-championship title has opened up for me and making a living from sailing now looks possible.”*

About ISAE-SUPAERO

A world leader in higher education and research in aerospace engineering, ISAE-SUPAERO is a research and innovation-driven institution of higher education, committed to balancing scientific excellence, academic visibility and proximity to industrial objectives. It offers a complete, unique range of advanced higher education programs including the Ingénieur ISAE-SUPAERO program and CNAM-ISAE apprenticeship program, 1 master in aeronautics and space delivered in English, 5 research masters, 14 advanced masters, and 6 Doctoral schools.

ISAE-SUPAERO has developed a research policy resolutely focused on answering the future needs of the aerospace industry and other high technology sectors. Close collaboration with industry is reflected in the Institution's ongoing commitment to developing teaching and research chairs in strategic fields such as neuroergonomics and human factors, advanced space concepts, embedded systems engineering, eco-design for aircraft or innovative propulsive systems. 12 chairs are currently in progress with Thales Alenia Space, Axa, Airbus, Safran, Dassault Aviation, Arianegroup or MBDA for instance. Many lecturers from industry also contribute to the school's programs, keeping students attuned to the latest technological innovations and the best industrial practices.

On the international level, ISAE-SUPAERO cooperates with premier European universities (TU Munich, TU Delft, ETSIA Madrid, Politecnico Torino et Milano, KTH Stockholm, Imperial College, Cranfield), North American institutions (Caltech, Stanford, Georgia Tech, UC Berkeley, EP Montreal...), ...) and Latin American and Asian universities as well.

The ISAE-SUPAERO learning community includes 101 professors and researchers, 1800 lecturers from industry, and nearly 1700 undergraduate students. Every year, over 30% of the Institute's graduates are international students, and the alumni network includes over 22 100 former graduates.

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