



# The Assas Post

## Student Issue!

*(Simply the best students in Paris)*



**Entertainment**



**Sports**



**Spoken Contest**



**Freedom of Speech**

**Also including cultural activities, music, social life, political associations and much much more...**



# Editorial: by the Student Vice-President

René Boustany is the Student Vice President, and was elected by the students to represent them.



is fantastic for this. Many associations share a common objective; each with their own vision for our university but each with a common desire to work together.

As for me, I got involved with MET-Assas. Its commitment over the last forty years to defending the values of merit, excellence, freedom and responsibility at the heart of the university won me over. This was also in line with my own personality as well as my desire to work in an association whose ultimate goal is to represent the students.

I could never have imagined that I would learn and discover so many things in this undertaking, but it's clear to me now that this associative commitment was a guiding light towards openness and learning. It allowed me not only to participate in the process of modernisation of the university through the creation of new degrees and the PRES, but also to acquire skills in event organisation,

campaigning, and to debate as well as to defend values and convictions.

I was eventually elected to the position of VPE and I still have as many, if not more, projects in mind today! It's not about the material constraints that your VPE must deal with. And little does it matter that I am temporarily without an office, seeing as how the "broom closet" that served as an office for my predecessors was requisitioned by the Sorbonne. I know that a solution will be found for these material considerations one way or another. Let's just be content and proud to belong to the largest law university and to be recognized and respected by our teachers, just as we value and respect them.

My daily life is dictated by the constant to-ing and fro-ing between the Assas and Pantheon campuses. I am, if you like, a student among the students. Some less generous tongues might even suggest that I'm a 'normal' VPE, and

why not, if that just means that I take my responsibilities seriously. And this is just the case! Whether it be on the sofas of the Cafet' Cujas or in the design rooms of the mezzanine floor, I meet with the association heads, the elected members of the university and listen to the students. I do my best to solve the student's everyday problems.

Assas needs you!

**René Boustany**



**M**y commitment to our university doesn't date back to July 2, when I was made Student Vice President by the elected students, the administration and faculty members. No, it dates back to the very first day of my very first year at Paris II, when I first felt the desire and the need (in my own humble way) to get involved and to get the ball rolling.

Associative life at Assas

**Foreword:  
by Jean-Eric Branaa**

# Editorial: by the President

**W**hen we talk about Panthéon-Assas University, subjects for conversation abound. The excellent international reputation of our university rests upon its teachers, researchers and learned societies, without forgetting its history, which successfully combines a lively, bold and traditional spirit.

Needless to say, our students remain a key component to our university and the extent to which they invest themselves in their studies is judiciously coupled with their personal investment. The result of this is a rich associative life that many envy us for. At Panthéon-

Assas University, it's more than just a question of having a healthy mind in a healthy body, it's also having the discipline to find that healthy balance between work and play. The current edition of The Assas Post serves as a modest reflection of the reality of student life at Panthéon-Assas University. That our students have contributed to its conception, and, moreover, in English, is something for us to be proud of. This is a Christmas gift for all of us to share. Congratulations to all of our students.

**Guillaume Leyte  
President of Panthéon-Assas University**



**I** take this opportunity to remind 1st year students that Assas Post 71 remains an Assas Post: even though it is a special issue, it nevertheless counts towards your ongoing learning. The issue of freedom of speech and of the press is a point that you should study and on which you may be assessed.

Apart from this little detail, I hope that you will enjoy reading this special student issue, since it speaks about your life at university. After having provided you with an opening to the world over the past semester, it is only fair that we should turn our attention towards you.

Student life is rich at Panthéon-Assas University and you confirm this every day by your involvement in all the activities we offer...

I wish you all happy reading, as well as a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Jean-Eric Branaa  
Maître de Conférences**



## Happy birthday to YOU!!!

*UGES has now been active at Assas for 20 years! 20 years... how time flies!!*

Founded in 1992 by a group of friends wanting to spice up the day-to-day life at Assas, UGES has always been driven with the same objective in mind: to sweep your everyday student life off its proverbial feet!

With happy hours and weekly clubbing, trips throughout Europe including skiing and many varied cultural events, UGES is the official one-stop-shop for fun-filled times.

Made up of a zealous, highly-motivated staff, this association goes out of its way to meet your demands as well as those of the entire Assas student body. Above all, UGES is a very close-knit family that has been together now for two decades, with all generations represented.

So what is its secret spice? Contagious cheerfulness and ever-smiling members for one! It's non-political and non-denominational character is also integral to ensuring that everyone is welcome.

So if you're looking to relax and take your mind off things, in the company of other students either at Assas or further afield, then this is the best way to do it.

The UGES is first and foremost your BDE. We are responsible for representing you. And it's with this notion in mind that we came up with the idea of developing, for you the student, a Smartphone application going by the sweet-sounding name of UNIXIR.

This application is our contribution to all of the associations at Assas and is designed especially with the student in mind. It is your source for news, current events and all of the great ideas that the student associations have unearthed for you, in order to help make these years the best of your



lives!  
Involved in everyday university life with an elected representative on the CEVU (Conseil des Etudes et de la Vie Universitaire), UGES's door (local 2) is always open to assist you with every obstacle that you may encounter and to give you ongoing support.

UGES's reason for being is neither prestige nor accolade; it is here first and foremost to promote and defend the interests of all the Assas students. Its purpose is, and always will be, to be the primary motor in helping Assas students chill out to the max!

Cool and relaxed being the order of the day, do not forget that the association is composed of ordinary students just like yourself; and, this is core to the identity of UGES.

So, don't hesitate to drop in and see us at local 2 where you can soak up the special atmosphere over a cup of coffee made with peace and love.

**Edouard Jubert  
President of UGES BDE  
ASSAS**

### Assas de Concert



Born on October 15, 2010, Assas de Concert is much more than an association. It is a true community of music lovers at the heart of Paris II University.

#### Assas de Concert, why?

Assas de Concert began as a result of an obvious yet regrettable observation: despite the flurry of political and cultural bodies and trade unions that make up the associative landscape of Assas, there was no one association dedicated exclusively to music. Many students at Paris II do, in fact, enjoy going to concerts, playing instruments and, quite simply, meeting up for a drink to talk about Beethoven or Miles Davis.

It was to bring such things to life, that Assas de Concert was created. What's important to us is that Paris II students can meet to share their love of music in a friendly and good-humoured atmosphere.

#### Assas de Concert, how does it work?

Music and a good atmosphere... of course, but let's get serious: how does Assas de Concert work in practice? Our objective is twofold: on the one hand, we offer members the opportunity to attend concerts at reduced rates, to have a drink after seminars to let off steam, and to pass on offers from our partners etc. On the other hand, we're also here to help students that play an instrument to form bands, to provide them with a room to rehearse in and, most importantly, to allow them to perform in a concert at the university itself!

Are you a viola player looking to join up with two violinists and a cellist to perform Schubert's Rosamunde quartet?

Would you like to attend concerts at reduced rates at the Salle Pleyel or the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées?

Would you simply like to meet other students for a drink?

Do not hesitate to get in touch. Assas de Concert is here for you!

**Assas de Concert will be performing at the Gala d'Assas on December 21, mixing classical music, jazz and soul!**





## Vocabulary

**a student union:**  
an organisation that works for the interests of students

**thus:**  
in this way

**trade unionism:**  
organisations that act for the interests of working people

**employees:**  
people who work for a salary

**however:**  
a word to introduce a contrary idea

**schooling:**  
education

**independence:**  
not needing anyone's financial help

**willingly:**  
gladly, voluntarily

**a goal:**  
an objective

**concrete terms:**  
what is done that can be seen

**available:**  
can be contacted

**political players:**  
those people who have political power

# UNEF

**U**NEF (Union Nationale des Étudiants de France) is the largest **student union** in France. With no political affiliation, our sole aim is to improve the situation and interests of students which are too often neglected. **Thus**, for some, "true **trade unionism** only applies to **employees**", because "students don't make up a social class". **However**, although the subordination relationship between employer and employees is not exactly found within the university system, all youths are faced with a common problem – job insecurity and poverty. Yet they have the same needs – high-quality **schooling** and the common dream of **independence**. Following

from this, student trade unionism **willingly** takes on the same **goal** of all unions, as set out in article L1111-1 of the labour code: "*the defense of moral and material interests*".

UNEF has three missions: first - to inform students, whether it is the SOS exams campaign or social support available to students; second - to defend students, either individually when a student has a problem enrolling or some other difficulty; or collectively, when student rights are threatened; and last – to organize student solidarity, in other words, to help organize as a body in order to facilitate student life, for example - setting up a second-hand book sale etc.

In order to accomplish these three missions, we have adopted both a local and national approach. In **concrete terms**, this means

that we are **available** on a daily basis to help you, reply to your emails and pass on your opinions to the administration... However, that's not all.

As the number one student union in France and Assas (with 40% of votes at Assas), we also act on a national level. In other words, we incite **political players** to improve the situation. Indeed, it would be naive to think that those issues regarding student living and studying conditions do not depend on national structures.

In this way, we have succeeded in pushing the government to open negotiations on a new system of social aid.

So, come and join us and help obtain new rights for all students!

**Diarra Abdoulaye**  
**Président UNEF Paris II**



# MET



**M**et-Assas is the student branch of UNI, the university's right-wing political movement.

Above all, we defend a number of values including freedom, responsibility, excellence, and merit, as well as demanding a constructive and enterprising student **commitment**, in the face of those who act only by means of dispute, protests and **blocking** universities.

MET-Assas represents you on the various different university boards: **the board of directors**, the board of university life and the UFR boards. All these bodies are mainly composed of students who can give advice on university policy and thus allow our elected officials to **uphold** the values that define us in much the same way our projects do.

It is for this reason that we pushed for the creation at Assas of differentiated

paths within L1 resulting in the *parcours réussite* and the *Collège de droit*. We are also very committed to the professionalization of studies, which translates into a development process accompanied by a better recognition of **extra-curricular internships**. The research aspect should not be neglected either; and to this end, we are pushing for the creation of an optional masters dissertation from M1 level onwards.

It should be understood that Assas faces competition from foreign universities and the *grandes écoles* who have created their own law programs. MET-Assas therefore supports all initiatives that allow our university to shine both nationally and internationally. The PRÉS Sorbonne University is one of these initiatives permitting Assas to receive funding to develop

new qualifications and gain international exposure. Finally, partnerships with companies and law firms can only be a source of enrichment for the university and for students.

Beyond this aspect of student representation, the MET-Assas also aims to provide daily services to students.

This involves the organisation, at the beginning of each semester, of a book **subsidy** as well as the holding of conference-debates in order to ensure that university education is not just theoretical.

In addition, we annually organise, depending on the partnerships established, various events to allow students to obtain legal books at discounted prices.

MET-Assas also publishes its own newspaper for students called the COM'MET containing exclusive interviews with teachers, journalists and politicians.

**Jean-Rémi Costa**  
**Responsable du MET-ASSAS**

## Vocabulary

**commitment:**  
the attitude of someone who works very hard to do or support something

**to blockade:**  
to stop people or supplies from entering or leaving a building/country

**the board of directors:**  
the group of people who manage a company or organization

**to uphold:**  
to support or defend

**extracurricular:**  
describes an activity or subject that is not part of the usual school or college course

**an internship:**  
time spent doing a job as part of becoming qualified to do it

**subsidy:**  
money given as part of the cost of something, to help or encourage it to happen

## Our Editor-in-Chief

A big thank you and heartfelt congratulations to Edouard Neu-Janicki who was our editor-in-chief for this issue. He is one of the founding members of CNAssas and one of your representatives on the CEVU. The CEVU is a council that organizes university life and is chaired by the President of the university and the Student Vice-President.



## What on earth is CEVU?

An interview with Edouard NEU-JANICKI

My name is Edouard and I'm one of the founding members of Canal Network Assas, the official TV channel for Assas students. I was elected twice (first in 2010, and then in 2012) at the CEVU (the acronym for the pompously named *Conseil des Etudes de la Vie Universitaire*, i.e. Board of Studies for University Life), one of the university's major boards which votes on all educational and student projects that take place at Assas-Panthéon University.

Made up of 12 student representatives including the VPE, the board is an organisation designed to gather, exchange and share information in order to bring it to the attention of the President, the teachers and lecturers as well as the rest of the university personnel.

It is also a place where we debate and vote on course templates, university timetables, seminar options, as well as the drafting of new diplomas.

Having seen two generations of student reps succeed each other, I can assure you that the board's elected members have gained more experience and know-how and are always available to listen to your requests. Therefore, don't hesitate to contact us about any issue regarding your studies.

We have regular contact with

the university administration services as well as a monthly meeting with the President, who is actively interested in about the life of the students and their problems.

### What are the student representatives here for?

Uuuuh, nothing? Naaah, just joking! In fact, student reps represent you in front of the university administration and the Professors (faculty). They are here to achieve the programme for which they have been elected but also to advise, to guide and possibly defend the students.

### How do you get in touch with one of your reps?

You can contact me either at the Canal Network Assas office, located in the right-hand corridor when going to the basement toilets on the Assas campus, or simply send me an email to the following address: edouardnj@gmail.com

### What should I do if I have a project I want to carry out?

First, you should know that unless you are a student rep, it will be difficult for you to keep control over your project's future development. You should approach one of your reps who will help you with the development of your project, assessing its progress, and seeing it through to its completion.

### UNEF

- The subordination relationship between employer and employees is:
  - never found within the university system.
  - very common within the university system.
  - not very typical within the university system.
  - none of the above
- How often is UNEF available to help students?
  - on a daily basis
  - on a weekly basis
  - only by appointment
  - none of the above

### CEVU

- Student representatives may be called on to defend students.
 

True ● False ●
- Having a student rep is very useful for keeping control over project development.
 

True ● False ●

### MET

- Met-Assas is critical of associations that only use dispute, protests and blockades to further their objectives.
 

True ● False ●
- Met-Assas develops initiatives to help students with the elevated cost of buying legal literature.
 

True ● False ●

## Food for thought: Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is the most important board of the university. This is the principal decision making body. Everything goes through it. It approves the budget, new diplomas, Erasmus agreements etc. What's more, every four years it elects the President of the university. It is, if you like, the university's parliament, and 5 of its 29 elected members are from the student ranks.

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| - M. Benjamin GUERAUD-PINET (UNEF) | - Mme Sophie COULON (ASSAS.NET)        |
| - M. Samuel VAN DER VLIST*         | - Mme Océane VASSARD*                  |
| - Mme Esther HUET (UNEF)           | - M. Axel DELMOTTE (La CORPO Paris II) |
| - Mme Perrine GREGOIRE-MARCHAND*   | - M. Gauthier de LESTRANGE *           |
| - M. Jean-Rémi COSTA (MET-Assas)   | * = deputy                             |
| - M. Thibault BURNIER*             |  |

Here are all your CEVU representatives:

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| - Mme Marthe CORPET (UNEF)        | M. Angelo-Gabriel MIKAEL*                     |
| M. Tarik HADJ-MOURI* Suppléant    | - Mme Coralie CHOLET (MET-Assas)              |
| - M. Boris CARDINEAUD (UNEF)      | M. Yasser KARAMI*                             |
| M. Hugo JAILLOUX*                 | - Mme Evanne CRETEUR (MET-Assas)              |
| - M. Voussad CHALLAL (UNEF)       | Mme Pauline MONTAY*                           |
| Mme Louisa DJOUADI*               | - M. Eloi GUILBERT (La CORPO Paris II)        |
| - M. Clément DENIS (UNEF)         | Mme Astrid ENGELSEN*                          |
| M. Antonin MAROT*                 | - M. Paul-Antoine TREMOLET (La Boule d'Assas) |
| - Mme Nelly ACHILLE (Assas.net)   | Mme Lesley DOLAN*                             |
| Mme Camille WATTRELOS*            | - M. Edouard NEU-JANICKI (CAP 2)              |
| - M. Pierrick BARTHES (Assas.net) | Mme Agathe BENAD*                             |
| Mme Aliya-Anaïs DJEBLI*           | * = deputy                                    |
| - M. René BOUSTANY (MET-Assas)    |   |

## Vocabulary

**a board:**

a group of people who have managerial, supervisory, investigatory, or advisory powers

**a discount:**

a reduction

**founded:**

established

**to liven up:**

to become more energetic or in a better mood, or to make someone feel this way

**on the agenda:**

scheduled

**a gift voucher:**

a coupon which can be used to buy products in stores, which is often offered as a gift

**thus:**

therefore

**a paper:**

a written assignment, dissertation, essay, etc.

**loads:**

lots of

**the ins and outs:**

all the details

**aim:**

objective

**an outing:**

a short, local trip

**a stand:**

an area with a table used to present information



# Mild heart attack? The Assas.net defibrillator is coming to jump-start your system back to life!

**A**re you looking for a student association focused on mutual assistance or elected representatives to the different **boards** of the university? Want a Partnership Card that allows you to make the most of many generous **discounts**? More than just course notes to help with your studies, do you also want various fun projects?

No, you haven't got the wrong address: we are Assas.net and we welcome you!

Non-union, apolitical and

with no religious affiliation, Assas.net is an association **founded**, above all, on mutual assistance. We have a regular presence in the halls of Assas, Vaugirard or Melun to **liven up** your daily life.

In order to bring some happiness to your lives, we are organizing a Christmas Photomaton at the Assas campus on Thursday, December 20. **On the agenda**, there is a meet and greet and a photo opportunity with the real Santa Claus while enjoying candy handed out by

the many Mrs. Santa Clauses from Assas.net. Compete. At the same time, to win prizes such as **gift vouchers** for AppleOnCampus, Bareminerals, and Dunod as well as DVDs kindly donated by Dalloz!

But Assas.net is first and foremost a serious student association which you can always count on during the most important moments of your studies. On our forum you will **thus** find complete authorized course notes during the review period,





# ASSAS .net

examples of the best **papers**, past end-of-term exams, **loads** of essays and corrected class exercises.

Since working is, above all, discovering and learning, Assas.net is planning a trip to Strasbourg for you to discover the European institutions located there. As European law is becoming increasingly important to your university course of study, you'll come to know all the **ins and outs** of the European Parliament, the European Court of Human

Rights and the Council of Europe!

With this **aim** in mind, we are offering different sessions for you to attend in this European capital, while spending time discovering the city with your friends!

This two-day **outing** will take place the in new year on February 4th & 5th, before classes start back up. We'll be taking 55 lucky people for the modest sum of 55€, all included. Don't hesitate to come see us in our office

(local 11) or at our **stand** in the halls of Assas, Vaugirard and Reine Blanche, if you are interested.

**Address:** Local 11, basement, 92 rue d'Assas  
**Email:** bureau@assas.net  
Forum Assas.net: www.assas.net/forum  
Facebook Page Assas.net : OfficielAssas.net  
Facebook Page Partnership card Assas.net : CartePartenariatAssasnet

## Exercises

- The Assas.net defibrillator is here to:
  - slow you down.
  - get you moving.
  - all of the above
- Assas.net offers:
  - help with your family life.
  - lots of reductions on things.
  - none of the above
- A synonym for 'liven up' is:
  - animate
  - weaken
  - confound
- A Christmas Photomaton is being organised to:
  - help you with your exams.
  - make you happy.
  - all of the above
- In Strasbourg, you will be able to discover:
  - European law institutions.
  - more about Apple.
  - none of the above
- A synonym for 'ins and outs' is:
  - lay of the lamb
  - lay of the light
  - lay of the land
- A synonym for 'outing' is:
  - excursion
  - long holiday
  - beach house
- A synonym for 'founded' is:
  - controlled
  - inaugurated
  - wished

*Please go online for more exercises.*



## Vocabulary

**wide:**  
of great range or scope

**to profit:**  
to gain an advantage or benefit

**apolitical:**  
of no political significance

**without distinction:**  
without taking exception to

**a neighbour:**  
a person who lives near another

**to join in:**  
to include oneself in something

**formal dress:**  
a dress code whereby people generally dress well for a special occasion

**overall:**  
covering or including everything

**to be available:**  
to be obtainable or accessible

**to overdo it:**  
to carry to excess or beyond limit

**loads:**  
a large quantity of something

**to strive:**  
to make great efforts towards any goal



For 75 years, the “Corpo” has been a part of the University of Paris II, where it offers students a **wide** variety of services and events throughout the year.

The Corpo, a non-**profit**, **apolitical**, non-religious, and non-union association, is open to ALL STUDENTS **without distinction**; we simply try to improve your everyday university life!

To get off to a good start to the academic year, we organised an Orientation Weekend for 250 Assas students to meet their future lecture hall **neighbours** in a festive atmosphere; then, we **joined in** the fun at the first party of the year: the Halloween party!

The other major event, the famous Assas Gala, will be held on December 21, 2012, with at least 1,500 students

# Corpo Assas



participating in majestic decor in one of the most beautiful Parisian halls – this year at the Salon Hoche in Paris’ 8th district! **Formal dress** is required; it’s the ultimate event of recent years.

February is a great time to get some exercise with Corpo Ski! From February 2-10, 170 students will chill out after their final exams in the magnificent ski resort of the Ménuires and its immense ski area in the 3 Valleys. On the agenda, a week of partying, sports and an **overall** festive ambiance is

guaranteed!

March is the month of cultural travel in Europe; and news about the trip will become **available** as the year goes on.

However, the Corpo also provides services such as the publication of the only student newspaper at Assas, “Le Canard d’Assas”, as well as the distribution of the paper, “Le Petit Juriste”. The Corpo also makes the “Précis de Révisions” available and uploads the best papers so that you can have all the necessary tools to revise for your exams.

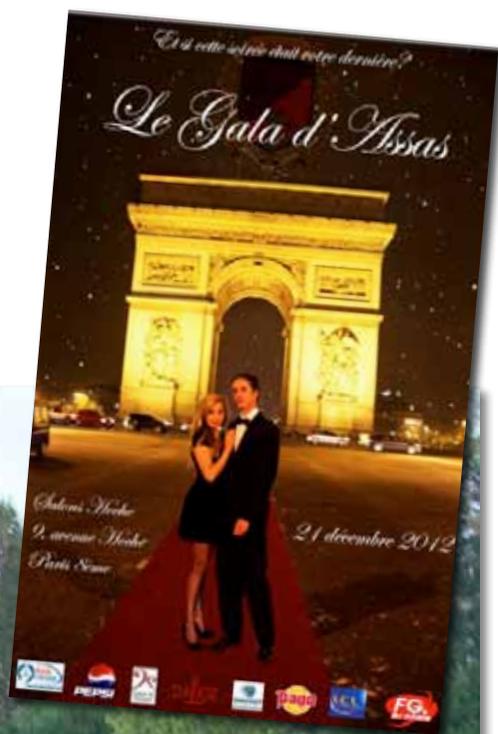
Don’t forget that we can also study, without **overdoing it**. Cultural tours in Paris are being organized; which provide occasions to visit the Senate, the National Assembly, and **loads** of other monuments!





Plus, the Corpo Card, offered to students for a mere 2€, allows you to enjoy many discounts in shops, banks and driving schools near the university: the Corpo thinks of everything, and most importantly you!

Finally, and above all, the Corpo takes part in the Central Boards of the university and the CROUS; we **strive** to represent Assas students by always taking into consideration their interests.



Exercise ● True or False

1. The "Corpo" has been a part of Paris II for over 75 years.

True ● False ●

2. The association has political engagements.

True ● False ●

3. The association is only open to third year students.

True ● False ●

4. The first party is the Christmas party.

True ● False ●

5. Assas Gala is the first event organised by the association.

True ● False ●

6. A ski trip will take place in March.

True ● False ●

7. The association distributes two papers.

True ● False ●

8. The Corpo Card is very cheap.

True ● False ●

Please go online for more exercises.



# Sport at Assas

Combining a healthy mind with a healthy body: sport is an integral part of university life.

Starting this year, students can use a gym worthy of **the finest**... and for free. You no longer have any excuse for not having the perfect body! **Besides**, everyone knows that the finest and most beautiful students are at Assas.

With 67 different activities and 291 slots proposed at the university, sport holds an important place in student life. You can play football, basketball, rugby and practice judo. You can swim, run, ride horses, jump, go parachuting or even play golf (yes, we are at Paris II, **after all!**). 4,000 of you are already involved in sporting activities (or soon to be **registered**...we all know there's a difference) and as the New Year approaches, your next **resolution** should be to practice sports at Assas.

Here are a few events to



## Exercise True or False

1. Students no longer have any excuse for being out of shape.

True  False

2. According to the article, Assas has the ugliest students than any other university.

True  False

3. Your New Year resolution will be to eat bags and bags of popcorn.

True  False

4. The Boule d'Assas tournament will take place in the south of France.

True  False

5. The golf event is only for Assas students.

True  False

6. Assas has a silver medal Olympic Games winner.

True  False

7. This year, Agorassas will participate in the Luxembourg Gardens race.

True  False

8. Over three thousand students are already involved in sport activities at Assas.

True  False

*Please go online for more exercises.*

take note of in order to get into the swing of things under the right conditions, especially if the exams become too much.

The boule d'Assas is a real bowls association at the very

be located in the main hall at Assas.

Golf Trophy (April 27): a day when students, faculty and staff of the university have the opportunity to play together. May the best team win!

And so much more is to come...

Sport at Assas, however, involves a whole lot more than this. Did you know that we have **stars** in our **midst**? Gaël Rivière must be mentioned for winning the silver medal in blind football at the London Para-Olympics. Viva Assas!!!! There are many more **high-level** athletes than you might think who study at Assas.

Studies show that practicing a sport significantly increases your success when it comes to your university work. Well, we're not exactly targeting those of you reading this Assas Post who are sprawled on the couch eating popcorn, but still... Though if you're watching a game, that's not so bad.

Sports service: on the ground floor at Notre Dame des Champs (not the first floor, that's Agorassas!)

Website to know: Sportassas.com

## Vocabulary

- the finest:** of superior or best quality
- besides:** moreover; furthermore; also
- after all:** nevertheless
- to register:** to enroll
- a resolution:** a resolve or determination to do something
- otherwise:** in other respects
- to be in touch:** to contact somebody
- a star:** a person recognised in the public eye, such as a celebrity
- midst:** among
- high-level:** undertaken by or composed of participants having a high status

## Studies show that practicing a sport significantly increases your success when it comes to your university work.

heart of the university, which will be holding a tournament in June. You might think that you'll be in the south, but no, you'll be in Balard.

**Otherwise**, you'll find the bowls association at the Luxembourg Gardens.

Sports Day (March 26): stands and presentations of the various sports offered will

The Coupe du Sénat: a relay race in the Luxembourg Gardens. Each participant runs around the garden once, as fast as possible...

**NOTE:** This year, Agorassas will participate in the race and is asking any willing students to join our team. For all our fans out there, we'll **be in touch**.

# Gaël Rivière

This is an interview with Gaël Rivière, silver medal winner at the London Para-Olympics Games in CECIFOOT (football for the blind). Here, Gaël shares his university experiences, sporting life, inspirations and dreams!

**Justine:** Hi, can you introduce yourself?

**Gaël Rivière:** Hi, I'm 22 years old, 1m76, a Master's student in Business Law and a member of the French Football Team.

**Justine:** How long have you been playing football?

**Gaël Rivière:** I've played football with my friends for 7 years with a simple difference – I used to place a plastic bag around the ball so that I could hear it as it moved. It was only later when I was around 14 or 15 that I discovered CECIFOOT (football for the blind), where we play with a football that has a bell inside it.

**Justine:** Is Daredevil your hero?

**Gaël Rivière:** I am more of an Olive and Tom fan. I don't like that movie since it's a caricature and doesn't serve our cause.

**Justine:** Did the fact that there weren't many professional athletes at the Olympic Games make it difficult for you to make friends?

**Gaël Rivière:** On the French team, we're very good friends, and since we don't all come from the same club, that helps make it a friendly group. We appreciate the Spanish team a lot, it goes beyond a sporting rivalry, because today



we're the two best teams in the world. We can really talk about a CECIFOOT family. But in general, we often chat with players from different nations about the differences between our countries.

**Justine:** What was your childhood dream?

**Gaël Rivière:** My parents told me that when I was little, I wanted to be a lawyer (laughs).

**Justine:** How do you organize your daily life between CECIFOOT and your studies?

**Gaël Rivière:** It was a balancing act between classes and football. The first year was easier since I was

injured with a torn ligament. At that time, I had more free time to go to my classes. The teachers are also very understanding. I missed a test and some classes for a competition in Turkey and there was no problem with my professors. Though, this does mean that I have some pretty long days (laughs).

**Justine:** What is the fondest memory you have of your time at university so far, and what would you say is your best CECIFOOT memory?

**Gaël Rivière:** My fondest university memory would have to be the end of my Master's, when I learnt that a friend who had helped me from the beginning had passed her Master's degree. My best CECIFOOT memory? The semi-final when we beat Spain.

Source: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-20547136>  
The BBC, November 29, 2012

Vocabulary

- compulsory purchase:** expropriation
- loan:** money given temporarily
- deceptively:** trickily
- to seize:** to take forcibly
- market value:** retail price
- burden:** mental weight
- compensation:** payment in case of a problem
- homeowner:** possessor of a home
- equity:** value of a property
- to lose out:** to lose money
- equity law:** relief decided according to what is morally right
- plaintiff:** complainant
- to invoke:** to call upon
- system of precedent:** use of antecedents in law
- Common Law:** whereby a court must base present-day decisions on decisions made in similar cases in the past
- Case law:** new interpretations of existing law which then become recognized as precedents

# System of Precedent and Equity Law help in compulsory purchase case

The French team, Assas Rhétorique, is enacting a mock representation of a court case. The following is supposed to be a made-up conversation between Romain Descharnes, as Attorney General, and a Barrister by the name of Sophie Perrin. Our Assas representative, Romain is defending Joel Kerr, 30, whose home in Belfast was taken from him by **compulsory purchase**, who is still paying a **loan** on the property.

**R:** Attorney General, Romain Descharnes.  
**SP:** Barrister, Sophie Perrin.

**R:** In 2007, my client Mr. Kerr bought a home in Belfast. Then, in 2010, the Department of Social Development **deceptively** took it from him! Kerr paid £150,000 for it, but it was bought from him by compulsory purchase for much less than he had paid. My client was left with no home and £50,000 of debt which he is still paying off. He is currently repaying £600 a month, and has had to rent a room elsewhere.

**SP:** Yes, his home along with 580 others was **seized** when the area was chosen for redevelopment. And as

the rules state, he received as payment the **market value** of the property in 2010. It is true that the property value dropped, but my client, the Department of Social Development, cannot be responsible for paying more than the market value.

**R:** I absolutely disagree! Under European human rights law the compulsory purchase of the house has placed Mr. Kerr under an excessive **burden**. He has been forced to pay out money and now gets nothing in return. Mr. Kerr should get full **compensation** to the full value of what he paid for the house and not just the market value at the time it was taken from him.

**SP:** Mr. Larkin, on average the current system is fair. Of the 580 houses subject to compulsory purchase, only 54 belonged to **homeowners** in a position of negative **equity**. Very few of them have **lost out** on the purchase.

**R:** Perhaps, but this client has lost out. The flexibility of **equity law** puts this client in the right to demand a higher compensation for the sale of his home and the trouble it has put him through. Furthermore, in 2005 in a very similar trial, the **plaintiff** was granted full compensation of his property costs. We plan to **invoke** the system of precedent to win this case.

## ASSAS RHÉTORIQUE



The first time I came to ASSAS RHÉTORIQUE, I was nervous. Though the atmosphere in the room was friendly, everyone knew where to stand, what to say and what was going on which was not the case for me. Someone came up to me and asked if I wanted to debate. I answered that it was my first time and I thought I would just watch. "Nonsense!" They exclaimed, "You won't know if you are in love with it unless you try it." After fifteen minutes of preparation, I was up in front of a room of strangers trying

to convince them and myself that I had a valid argument to share. Having been part of the FDA tournament winning team (Go ASSAS!) for the year 2011/2012, I can now tell you that everything I did that day was wrong. I can also tell you that the teachers as well as the students took the time to explain to me what they felt I had done wrong and how to improve. I might have been a mess that first time, but I was hooked. I worked at it, and now every time I get in front of that room, though still a little

nervous, I get very excited because I now know how to captivate the room and all the strangers are now my friends. At ASSAS RHÉTORIQUE we come from all backgrounds, from international students to pure Parisians. We require a basic level of English but this is the perfect place to practice it. The only other thing we require is that you are crazy or courageous enough to give it a try, and maybe you'll fall in love with public speaking as I did after my first time.

**Charles Nollet**



## Grammar ● *passive voice (in the simple past)*

The passive voice is used when the focus is on the action. It is not important or not known, however, who or what is performing the action. Here, we will look at it in the simple past although it can be used with any tense.

Form:  
"to be" in the past simple + **Past Participle**

My bike **was stolen**.  
A letter **was written**.  
The windows **were closed**.

We can only form a passive sentence from an active sentence when there is an **object** in the active sentence:

Peter built a **house** → a **house** was built by Peter.  
The children ate the **cookies** → the **cookies** were eaten by the children.

# REVOLTE-TOI

**T**hough its name may suggest otherwise, Révolte-toi is not a revolutionary society or refuge for fifth-columnists. It is a voluntary, non-profit, organisation whose aim is to promote team debating, on a model based on that historically used by the French National Convention. In order to do this, it is hosting events in universities across the world in order to publicise this event to as wide an audience as possible. In April 2012, our campaign will culminate in an unprecedented event that should be entertaining, instructive and impressive - an international tribute to the French art of oratory - the world's first international francophone debating tournament. We also provide workshops and debate training sessions every week in different universities, currently hosted every Monday evening from 7pm to 10pm at Pantheon-Assas university (in Amphi 5), where students from different universities meet to debate in French! For more information, go to our facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/Revoltetoiassociationdedebat>.

### REVOLTE-TOI'S BASIC AIMS

Révolte toi's foremost objective is to promote the spoken word. In a materialistic society which is obsessed with imagery and physical appearances, we seek to breathe new life into the ancient art of speechmaking. We hope to present many would-be orators with the opportunity to:

- Experience the adrenaline rush, the passion and the excitement of verbal combat.
- Improve public-speaking skills by casting aside unfortunate misapprehensions, improving self-awareness and allowing participants to gain experience in public speaking.
- Push people to think and challenge ideas, since freedom of expression is one of Révolte-toi's key values.

### OUR TOURNAMENT

Friends, debaters, countrymen - prepare yourselves for an international feast of francophone eloquence! Students from the entire world over will pair themselves into teams and prepare for battle. Before this tournament, we are organising a breathtaking event on December 20th, where Paris II students will face l'Ecole Polytechnique in a 'Révolte-toi' debate!



## Exercises ●

Comprehension questions:  
1. Joel Kerr sold his home for £150,000.

True ● False ●

2. Joel Kerr willingly sold his home (it was his decision).  
True ● False ●

3. The barrister feels Kerr should only receive the current market value for the property.  
True ● False ●

Grammar Questions:

1. Choose the correct sentence:  
a. The dog was find yesterday.  
b. The dog was found yesterday.  
c. The dog was finding yesterday.

2. Choose the correct sentence:  
a. The law was passed.  
b. The law were passed.  
c. The law was pass.

3. Transform this sentence into the passive voice:  
The boy opened the windows.  
a. The windows opened by the boy.  
b. The windows was opened by the boy.  
c. The windows were opened by the boy.

Vocabulary:  
Match the images to a word in the vocabulary:

1. Picture A .....
2. Picture B .....
3. Picture C .....



# Freedom of Expression

By Jean-Eric Branaa, Maître de Conférences (Université Paris 2-Assas)

This article was written in collaboration with Edouard Neu-Janicki and Paul Schmitt (Canal Network Assas)

In the American context it is important to remember that after the ratification of the American Constitution, some people thought that there were weaknesses in the adopted version of the text and proposed the addition of a series of amendments. Ten of these amendments were approved and became part of the Constitution. These ten amendments are called the Bill of Rights. The objective of the Bill of Rights was to protect people from the government's arbitrary use of power, which Anglo-Saxons were subject to ever since the reign of King John.

The First Amendment was to prevent the government from telling people what they should say or print, or how they were to organize or complain to their rulers. It also prevented the government from imposing religious beliefs on people. It is one of the most important amendments

in the Bill of Rights. It states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

The 1st Amendment protects freedom of speech and press. The government cannot pass laws that stop individuals from freely speaking and writing their ideas. Citizens thus have the right to criticize government officials and decisions. They have the right to express unpopular ideas. One Supreme Court Justice said the 1st Amendment protects not only individual speech but also the circulation of ideas through newspapers, books, magazines, radio, television and, to some extent, movies. Freedom of the press means citizens have a right to

know. They have the right to read or listen to the ideas and opinions of others.

Unlike the press in some other countries, the American press is not subject to prior restraint – that is, censorship of information by the government before it is published or broadcast.

However, freedom of speech and press is not unlimited. Thus, there are laws against slander and libel. Slander is a false speech intended to damage a person's reputation. Libel is similar to slander, except that it applies to written or published statements. Also prohibited is speech that endangers the nation's safety by giving away military secrets or advocating action to cause the violent overthrow of the government. The courts have held, in addition, that speech should be responsible. For example, you do not have the right to cry "Fire!" in a crowded theatre just to





see what happens. Finally, speech that offends morals may be punished under laws prohibiting obscenity.

Today's question is about knowing what we can express and how we can express it.

Are there limits to freedom of expression? Can we say anything we like? If not, why not?

Can the media tell us everything? Where does one draw the line with freedom of expression? What is the purpose of this freedom and what is freedom of the press?

Canal Network Assas is a student association created in 2010, which aims at creating synergy between the different bodies of the university: students, administration,

teachers and student associations.

Over the last three years, CNA has striven, on a daily basis, to strengthen the sense of belonging that our students have to the university by organising competitions and buffets on Thursdays in the Assas lobby between 11:30 and 14:00. CNA also produces and broadcasts a news program that brings together all of the latest news, conferences, seminars, parties and social activities that take place in our university over the course of a week.

From our inception, we raised the question of whether there are limits to what we can say and do. Can we report the way in which teachers

behave around students, the sometimes strict or severe style of some lecturers, or the ignited passions of others?

Can we ask students to give us their thoughts on a particular course, stigmatize some and put others in the limelight?

Can we tell the truth about what really happens at student parties, as well as political and administrative pressures?

From a law point of view, we can do this as long as we don't affect people personally and are not defamatory, as long as we're not telling a lie but rather reflecting a subjective reality shared by some.

Our approach has always been guided by the question

of opinion. Can we be a vessel of speech for everyone or should we be selective with what we say? How can we turn a subjective thought into a general thought?

CNAssas works this way in order to produce a newspaper that is entertaining, fun to watch for all, and which keeps you informed of what's happening. Our newscast is made for you, but also with you, so why not join our team? Some have already presented the Assas News with Agorassas... and they will certainly be our next star presenters!

Our website: CNAssas.com  
Facebook: Canal Network Assas





# Assas Law(l) Post

Last but not least, here we'll take a look at a parody of the Assas Post, in the form of a Tumblr (a Tumblr is a type of micro-blog with pictures, photos, apps, etc). This particular one called Assas Law(l) Post provides humour to its readers.

Since May 2012, one of our students has been helping his classmates to unwind through his Tumblr which humorously describes the not always so glum daily life of jurist apprentices. Assas Post set out to meet the anonymous creator of the "Assas Law(l) Post".

## What pushed you to create a Tumblr about Assas' study programs?

The story is pretty funny. I was in the middle of studying for my second semester midterm exams. One evening, when I couldn't concentrate, I let myself slip into the deepest depths of the internet and stumbled upon some small, funny fan-sites. There was one that compiled people's reactions to Jon Stewart. I found it so cool that I asked myself "why not create a funny site?". At the time, no French universities were doing it and I thought it could be a good idea, so I decided to pursue it. The not-so-funny bit, is that

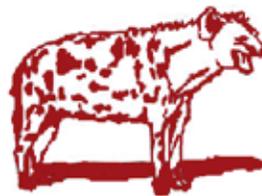
I had a Constitution mid-term the next day and I totally failed it!

## Where do you get the inspiration for your Tumblrs?

Ha! Inspiration is an exaggeration! Every week, I spend 15 minutes on the web looking for 10 or so gifs. Most of the time I find them in a mix of Tumblrs or on sites like "Funny or die". Then, I pick through them because they're not all funny or appropriate. There are some really bizarre gifs; some are even dirty or vulgar. From this sorting process, I make a list for the week. I pay particular attention to not use the same gifs as other blogs. It has happened that I've had to delete a post because another blog used the same gif. The themes that inspire me come from current events. The UMP elections were a godsend! More generally, I work with events happening at the university.

## Do Assas students post suggestions? Can they make them?

Students often make suggestions, mostly bad ones 75% of the time. Incidentally, they're not all from Assas; I even have students following the Tumblr from Belgium and



several from other law schools in France. Nonetheless, all my Facebook fans and Tumblr followers can send me messages and suggest their ideas, but I prefer to warn you that I'm extremely demanding and I only use the best ones or the ones that really make me laugh. For the rare few suggestions that I take, I generally put a dedication below.

## What is the objective of your initiative with Tumblr?

The goal of the Assas Law(l) Post is above all to distract students who have too much work and make them laugh. During exam times, we're all at our wit's end and would like to laugh a little for five minutes. Actually, Assas Law(l) is a dose of laughter, if you will.

Now I'm trying to win the loyalty of fans by offering them novelties like a logo, and brand profile. I've been doing

some branding. I've created the history, special features, a password for those who think they know who I am, etc.

## What are the future plans for the Assas Law(l) Post?

Currently, I'm taking a little break. I'll post less frequently, but, above all, I hope to keep my independence. I don't want to belong to another organ of Assas. I want to be completely separate. This doesn't mean that I wouldn't enjoy partnerships with groups, so long as I'm able to remain independent. I'm still waiting for it to grow. My plan is to see a post of the ALP on the big screens in the lobby at Assas. The best thing would be to arrive one day at Assas and see a crowd in front of the screens laughing! (Laughs)

If you know who I am just come up to me and say "Mon yaourt aux quetsches est très onctueux".

## Associations

There are so many associations at Assas! We could only pick a handful to feature in this Assas Post, so apologies to those that weren't mentioned! We don't like to leave you out, so here's a list of the university's associations:-

Other associations represented on the central boards and that have their own rooms. (basement):

FENEC, Doctorants autonomes et Doctorants indépendants.

Other cultural associations that have their own rooms (basement):

Amnesty Assas, Ass des étudiants en sc pol, Camisardassas, Club d'échecs, Chœurs de Paris II, Défi Assas, Assas Junior Conseil, Le Petit Juriste, Lysias, UEJF, Scènes Assassines.

And all the others (who don't have rooms): ACROPOL, Ass doctorants et docteurs, Afrique Forum Assas, A fortiori Assas,

Assas United Nations Association (AMUNA), Assas Finance Society, API Paris 2, AEDN (assoc dr notarial), Assoc Droit&Affaires (AD&A), AJDS(assoc juristes dr social), AM2FI, AMADINassoc master adm int, American Club Assas, Amicale des Law Riders, Les Arènes d'Assas, As'Assurance, Ass M2 dr comm(AJDCOM), Assas Conference Club, Assas Paris st Germain, Ass M2 Administration et Politiques publiques, ADA(Assoc Dr et affaires), Ass M2 Dr privé général, Assoc dr Public de l'Economie, Assas double maîtrise (Cambridge), Assas Finance Organisation, Assoc franco-suisse PII, Assoc Master 2 Contentieux Européens(ACE), Assoc Master 2 Dr public approfondi, Assoc M2 Dr des Affaires, Ass Dr affaires des pays arabes, Ass dr multimédia et inform, Ass M2 gestion pat privé et professionnel, Ass M2 Relations économiques internationales,

Ass M2 Relations intales, Assoc juristes comparatistes P II, Assoc juristes d'affaires (AJAI), Assoc des amis du CRDH, Ass juristes dr immobilier, Ass.juristes Dr Int PrivéAJDIP, Assoc des étudiants de l'IFP, Assoc des étudiants en sociologie du droit, Ass M2 droit pénal et sciences pénales, Assas Junior Conseil, Assos d'Assas, Aumônerie d'Assas, Avantage Magistère(Bque-Fin), Ass Benjamin Constant, Automobile Club Assas, BDE du Magistère de Juriste d'Affaires-DJCE, Certificat de droit bancaire et financier, Ass M2 Dr bancaire et financier, Certificat fondements dr public, Ciné Fac, Challenge Magistère, Club d'échecs universitaire d' Assas, Collège de droit, La Croix Rouge, Le Cru d'Assas, Débat Jeune et Démocratie participative, ECA(Echanges Cambridge-Assas), ELSA, Etudiants européens, EUROP'ASSAS, FEDER, La

gazette universitaire, Haute Résolution, Ass étudiants IFP( AEIFP), Ass IHEI( institut hautes études internationales, IDA, IP Assas, JADE (assoc juristes dr europ), Assoc juristes européens P2, Jeunes Européens Assas, JESSUP, Journalistes nomades, La gallinette d'Assas, Les Arènes d'Assas, LLM dr aff des pays arabes, Master2 Dr des Affaires, M2 Dr des affaires et fiscalité (ADAF), Master 2 Criminologie d'Assas, Master2 Dr publ de l'économie, Master 2 Droit bancaire et financier, Master Ingénierie Statistique et financière Alumni, Master 2 Dr Union européenne, MEGAS, Must d'éco, Ass dr multi média informatique, Pacta Sunt Servanda, Paris Culture II, Paris 2 Moot, Paris II-Rousseau, Politic'Actus, Révolte-toi, Revue de droit d'Assas, Rugby Assas Club, Sécudéf-Paris II, Terra Nova Etudiants Assas, Voyager solidairement.