



Association Française des Enseignants de Chimie Thérapeutique (AFECT)

Association des Enseignants-Chercheurs de Chimie Organique des UFR de Pharmacie (AECOP)

Association Francophone pour l'Enseignement et la Recherche en Pharmacognosie (AFERP)

Association des Enseignants Chercheurs de Chimie Physique et de Chimie Minérale (AECPCPM)

Association des Enseignants de Sciences Analytiques de Pharmacie (AESAP)

Association des Enseignants-chercheurs de Biophysique et Biomathématiques des Facultés de Pharmacie de langue française (ABIOPM)

Avec le soutien des sections 80, 81, 85 et 86 du Conseil National des Universités (CNU) :

80 Enseignants-chercheurs hospitalo-universitaires de pharmacie en sciences physico-chimiques et ingénierie appliquée à la santé

81 Enseignants-chercheurs hospitalo-universitaires de pharmacie en sciences du médicament et des autres produits de la santé

85 Enseignants-chercheurs de pharmacie en sciences physico-chimiques et ingénierie appliquée à la santé

86 Enseignants-chercheurs de pharmacie en sciences du médicament et des autres produits de la santé

Press release of May 11, 2020

Basic sciences must be restored to its central position in pharmaceutical training and research

Six teacher-researcher associations from 24 French Schools of Pharmacy, with the support of their sections of the National Council of Universities (CNU), elaborated this text in connection with the press release of the French National Academy of Pharmacy published on March 30, entitled "COVID-19 and Drugs - There is an urgent need to restore confidence in Chemistry". The current worldwide health crisis is an opportunity for us to recall the major role that the basic sciences can play and must play for the benefit of health, in particular through the research of new therapeutic and diagnostic tools as well as the production of drugs. In this respect, teaching chemistry, biophysics and biomathematics in France constitutes, in our point of view, a strategic importance for the country; in particular, theoretical and practical teaching in the Schools of Pharmacy is of crucial importance. These fundamental disciplines were however neglected in the last two reforms of health studies, especially those of the first university cycle. They must therefore be developed to a high level of quality so that pharmacists remain the drugs specialists in all its dimensions, from their design, to their characterization and production. Their role remain essential for the implementation of the future therapeutic innovations. The same is true for research in chemistry and physics which, in our point of view, has the same strategic importance to the nation. Drug-oriented research should be supported through the creation and funding of dedicated research units, in particular in the Schools of Pharmacy, as well as through the development of targeted research programs for the design of new drugs, supported by public authorities in France and in Europe.