

OCTOBER 2024
Newsletter



**Editorial by Michel Tardieu (H.66)
Coordinator of *Heure H***

Exchanges on Ideas that Illuminate a Changing World

For nearly 20 years, it has been my privilege to organize the L'Heure H series, a platform for cross-disciplinary discussions designed to shed light on the transformations shaping our world today. The series was born from an inspiring encounter with Matthieu Ricard, who shared his uplifting philosophy on happiness and altruism during an engaging session that drew a full house. Since then, these evening events have become a regular feature.

Each year, L'Heure H offers 5 to 6 events, attracting between 100 and 200 participants, featuring an hour-long keynote followed by a rich Q&A session. The high-level speakers—leaders in fields such as philosophy, economics, science, social issues, and geopolitics—deliver their insights solo, uninterrupted by the noise of debates or distractions. I'm pleased to have hosted nearly 100 distinguished speakers.

I can humbly say that participants consistently leave these events feeling enriched by the thoughtful exchanges. Personally, it is a true pleasure to organize these gatherings and to work closely with the HEC Alumni team. Looking ahead, on November 18th, we are excited to welcome Aurélie Jean, one of France's leading experts on artificial intelligence and algorithms. She will discuss her latest book, [The Code Has Changed: Love and Sexuality in the Age of Algorithms](#). This promises to be a fascinating, perhaps even provocative, dive into the still mysterious world of AI and algorithms, a topic that continues to evolve.

The 3-Minute Update

👉 **Info**



Trajectoires: Become a HEC We&men 2025 Ambassador!

As an [HEC We&men](#) ambassador, you'll represent the vision of gender diversity and parity, inspiring under-represented women to pursue their ambitions. You will speak at events such as symposia and mentoring sessions. For the 2025 edition, the program is looking for bold women in finance, industry and tech. Get involved now and make a difference.

[To find out more.](#)

📊 Figure: 30.000

SOCIAL MEDIA GOAL



Join the HEC Alumni Community on LinkedIn! Our goal: connecting 30,000 Alumni.

We're almost 28,900 alumni connected on [LinkedIn](#), and with your help, we'll reach 30,000 by the end of the year!

Join us to keep up to date with the latest news, events, career opportunities and much more. Together, let's strengthen our network and raise the profile of the HEC community worldwide.

[Follow us on LinkedIn.](#)

🏆 Initiative of the Month

edflex

+3000 alumni are already expanding their knowledge through the Lifelong Learning platform, thanks to their Infinity Pass.

Are you ready to develop your skills?

Edflex, the Lifelong Learning platform available to Infinity Pass members is : - Over 70,000 resources: articles, videos, podcasts, online courses - unlimited access to replays of HEC webinars and [HEC Executive Education](#) webinars - quality resources in the fields of entrepreneurship, finance, leadership, foreign languages and public speaking - Certification courses and free courses accessible directly on the portal.

A simple, agile way to boost the skills you need, when you need them!

[Find out more about Edflex.](#)

Your Association



Mercure HEC 2024: Entrepreneurship World Tour

This year, alumni voted to select the 8 winners of the Mercure HEC of the Year in their respective geographic zones, from among 32 entrepreneurs from around the world selected by the experts on our regional committees.

👉 [Find out more about the winners.](#)

👉 [Find out more about the candidates.](#)



A Square on Campus Named after the H.09 Graduating Class

On September 14, 250 alumni and staff gathered around Bernard Ramanantsoa (MBA.76), former Dean of the Ecole, and Daniel Bernard (H.69), Honorary Chairman of the [HEC Foundation](#), to inaugurate the "Place Promotion 2009" in front of the M building.

What better occasion than the 15-year anniversary to thank and mark the unprecedented commitment of this graduating class, which raised €1 million in investment for [HEC Ventures](#) and raising €758,000 in donations and pledges as part of the Impact tomorrow 2019-2024 Campaign, which will soon draw to a close.

We particularly salute the high number of donors - 103 out of 482 - who helped fund scholarships, sports facilities and entrepreneurial programs.

HEC Paris, HEC Alumni and the HEC Foundation would like to thank the entire graduating class, and in particular Julien Lacaze, delegate, for his remarkable commitment.

[Find out more.](#)



Flashback on the 5th International Sailing Challenge at La Rochelle

Thanks to its loyal team, the 5th edition of the event was a success, with 92 participants from all over the world and 13 yachts from 10 to 15m. Ambroise, skipper of the Pays de Loire region, says: "Great encounters, good fatigue, and a magnificent sunrise under the Île de Ré bridge after a night sail. Thanks to the team! We can't wait to do it again." Encouraged by the distinction of the port of La Rochelle, the Club will organize the 6th edition in 2025. We look forward to seeing even more of you there. Location to be decided: Atlantic, Channel or Mediterranean!

Contact [Patrice Vandame \(MBA.82\)](#)

Our Selection from HEC Stories



Thomas Jonas (H.93): Plant-Based Leather for Sustainable Fashion

Thomas Jonas, co-founder of Nature's Fynd, is one of the leading figures in sustainable innovation. He graduated from HEC Paris in 1993 and was elected "HEC of the Year 2022" for his outstanding contributions to biotechnology.

[Read the article.](#)



Romain Troublé and the Tara Polar Station: A UFO at the North Pole

Led by Romain Troublé (M.01), the Tara Ocean Foundation, renowned for its schooner, is currently embarking on a colossal project: an international polar station dedicated to Arctic exploration, which will be christened in early 2025. HEC Stories got on board.

[Read the article.](#)

Meetings Not to Be Missed

London Mixer by Whats4u - November 6th

[Whats4u](#) is a group of alumni associations from leading Schools in France.

Join us for an evening of inspiration and creativity as we explore the themes of growth and transformation in both career and life. This event will also be a fantastic opportunity to connect with fellow alumni over drinks and light bites.

Organized by [HEC Life Project](#) in partnership with [Whats4u](#).

[Register.](#)

Blockchain and AI: Why Now and What to Expect? - November 14th

Organized by [HEC in the UK](#), this webinar will provide a comprehensive understanding of the benefits of the AI/Blockchain market intersection, recent trends and concrete live use cases.

[Register.](#)

On the Campus



HEC Paris MBA Welcomes an Exceptional Cohort in September 2024!

Ranked 6th worldwide in the [QS Global MBA 2025 QS World University Ranking](#), the HEC Paris MBA continues to shape the next generation of global leaders! What an incredible way to start the year with this exciting news, as we welcome our MBA 2024 cohort! We're proud to have 94% international students, bringing diverse perspectives from all corners of the globe. Over the next 16 months, our students will hone their leadership skills, gain hands-on experience and develop a global skill set to thrive in today's marketplace. So welcome to the journey of transformation and impact!

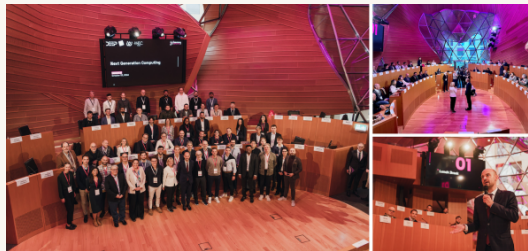
[Find out more.](#)



The First Laidlaw Scholarship Recipients Have Arrived on Campus!

Welcome to Kayra, Pragma, Ana Paula, Elief and Zainab! From Peru, India, Turkey, Mexico and Nigeria. These 5 remarkable women are the first beneficiaries of a new scholarship scheme funded by the Laidlaw Foundation. Created by Lord Laidlaw, this British foundation aims to support the emancipation of women from disadvantaged backgrounds. Having just arrived on the HEC campus, the 5 students had the privilege of meeting Lord Laidlaw & Susanna Kempe, CEO of the [Laidlaw Foundation](#), over lunch at the HEC Château. This new program with the School aims to attract exceptional women to the HEC MBA, and will support 10 deserving students each year to help them reach their full potential. It's a source of great pride to see donors who are not HEC graduates commit themselves to working alongside the School to develop new scholarship schemes and change more and more destinies around the world. Let's empower the next generation of women leaders!

[Find out more about the program.](#)



ESMT Berlin and HEC Paris Launch the Next-Generation Computing Program Through the Creative Destruction Lab

At the launch of the program in Berlin, the French Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs, Jean-Noël Barrot (H.07 and member of the [HEC Research Faculty](#)), underlined the importance of this partnership: "This collaboration between France and Germany offers a unique opportunity to advance European sovereignty in emerging technologies".

[Find out more.](#)

ELOQUENTIA@HEC

Eloquentia@HEC

On October 2, the 6th edition of Eloquentia@HEC mesmerized the Bataclan. Six high school students, chosen from 117 participants from all over France, captivated the audience with their inspiring speeches. The evening concluded a 30-hour eloquence immersion course on the HEC Paris campus. Since 2018, this initiative by HEC Paris, the HEC Foundation, and Eloquentia France aims to boost the confidence of high school students and their ability to defend their ideas. Congratulations to the finalists for their remarkable mastery!

[Watch the replay.](#)



HEC Paris in Partnership with the Paris Peace Forum on November 11 and 12!

The 7th edition of the Paris Peace Forum will be held on November 11 and 12, 2024, at the Palais de Chaillot in Paris, an emblematic venue located opposite the Eiffel Tower. This year's theme, "In search of a world order that works", will address the urgent need for effective international governance in a world marked by great power rivalries, global instability, North-South mistrust and new transnational challenges.

[Find out more.](#)

This newsletter is produced every month with ♥ by HEC Alumni
The entire HEC Alumni team is at your disposal, do not hesitate to contact us
for information: [Zéinka ISMAIL](#)
Happy reading!

Our projects and our events couldn't take place without
the payment of your membership fees.
Take advantage now of all the services of the HEC network
at preferential prices.

[Subscribe here](#)

HEC
PARIS
ALUMNI

