

Press release

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Scientists with an international influence

Two research professors from the Laboratory of Pulp and Paper Science and Graphic Arts (LGP2) have been named among the most influential scientists by two international rankings.

Professors Alain Dufresne and Naceur Belgacem feature in the ranking published by the University of Stanford, which lists the top 2% most cited researchers in the world in their subject field.

The analysis, which was performed by experts from the university, was based on Elsevier's Scopus, a cross-disciplinary database of abstracts and citations from scientific publications. This study of data from 1996 to 2019 covers around 7 million scientists in 22 fields and 176 subfields. In the subfield of polymers, 1,704 researchers are singled out from a total of 80,670.

Alain Dufresne is ranked 9th in the world and 1st out of the 89 French researchers listed, while Naceur Belgacem is ranked 461st in the world and 27th nationally.

In addition, for the third year in a row, Alain Dufresne appears in the Highly Cited Researchers ranking, which each year lists the scientists most frequently cited by their peers. Published annually by the Web of Science Group, a Clarivate Analytics company, this list recognises researchers who have produced multiple papers that are among the top 1% most cited in their field, demonstrating that their research has a significant influence on their peers.

Alain Dufresne has a passionate interest in the exceptional properties of nanocrystals and nanofibrils, whose industrial potential is immense. His research centres on the implementation and characterisation of polymer nanocomposites reinforced with nanoparticles extracted from renewable sources (biomass and agricultural residues).

Naceur Belgacem's expertise revolves around the urgency of finding solutions that reduce the environmental impact of human activities. He leads research on the rational use of biomass, on the valorisation of industrial and agricultural resources, and on surface and adhesion phenomena in lignocellulosic materials.

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Photo(s)

P20_Alain-Dufresne.jpg ** P20_Naceur-Belgacem.jpg

Grenoble INP-Pagora, the international school of paper, print media and biomaterials. The school is Quality, Safety & Environment certified and part of Grenoble INP, an engineering and management institute geared towards training "*engineers who are creative, responsible and committed to a sustainable world*". It trains engineers for the sectors of green chemistry, paper, printing, packaging, biomaterials and printed electronics. Its wide range of courses, pedagogical expertise and strong partnerships with industry allow it to continuously tailor its training to the needs of businesses and to the 60 graduates it produces each year, thus enabling them to embark upon stimulating careers in France and abroad. Grenoble INP-Pagora also develops international training: it offers a 2nd year engineering course, international semesters and a Biorefinery & Biomaterials Masters, taught in English. The innovative research performed by its LGP2 laboratory helps to improve processes and create products that meet all the latest requirements, notably those linked to the environment. These various activities ensure that the training offered is up to date with the latest scientific and technological advances. pagora.grenoble-inp.fr

The Laboratory of Pulp and Paper Science and Graphic Arts (LGP2) is a joint research unit (UMR 5518) run by the CNRS, Grenoble INP and the AGEFPI. It conducts its scientific activities in conjunction with the academic community of Grenoble Alpes University. LGP2 comprises three teams: *Biorefinery: chemistry and eco-processes – Multiscale biobased materials – Surface functionalization through printing processes*. Their research strives to meet society's expectations when it comes to sustainable development (green chemistry, clean processes, recycling, biobased materials, renewable energy) and traceability & safety (functional materials, smart paper and packaging). pagora.grenoble-inp.fr/lgp2