



Franco-British Student Conference 2010

12 - 14th February 2010
University College London

Afterthoughts, in hindsight...

Prepared by: Eugene LIM & Aurelia MASON



FBSC 2010 : mission accomplished!

« D'ici, où va-t-on? », or “Where do we go from here?” was the theme of the inaugural Franco-British Student Conference focusing on the differences as well as the opportunities that exist between France and the United Kingdom with the aim of seeking out ways of promoting and advancing cooperation in both directions across the Channel.

In the spirit of the Entente Cordiale, the conference reunited students from British and French institutes of higher education on a platform on which they may engage each other on subjects related to finance, economics and politics within the Franco-British context.

From the 12th to the 14th of February 2010, teams from each side of the Channel gathered at University College London. Facilitated by the viewpoints of our guest speakers, we juxtaposed opposing opinions on a common stage in order to discover common ground without compromising the common aim of furthering cooperation between both countries.

This conference was not only a fact-finding mission - it also re-ignited dialogue between students and institutions on both sides of the Channel, a catalyst for future cooperation.

“I thoroughly enjoyed the stress and adrenaline I got from the workload, organisational issues as well as the actual 3 days and aftermath of the conference - I would most definitely do this again and hope to have the opportunity to do so.”

- Aurelia

“Seriously, look at those happy faces and tell me, convincingly, that all that work wasn't worth it!”

- Eugene

Priceless opinions: our speakers

- **Ms. Florence Mele, Deputy Director of Studies, ESCP Europe London Campus**
 - *"The impact of the Bologna process on Cooperation between UK and French higher education institutions"*
- **Ms. Joanna Shaw, Parliamentary Candidate, Liberal Democrats**
 - *"Our Links: to the future"*
- **Mr. Hervé Mariton, Député de la Drôme, UMP**
 - *"Perspectives and opinions on Franco-British Relations"*
- **Prof. Peter Walton, IFRS Director of the ESSEC KPMG Chair of Financial Reporting**
 - *"The financial crisis and fair value: a Franco-British disagreement"*
- **Mr. Maximilian Vermorken, University College London / Cambridge University**
 - *"Finance and Civil Engineering: Correlations in disaster."*
- **Mr. Maurice Fraser, London School of Economics and Political Science**
 - *"Serious Global Players? France, The UK and The EU"*
- **Mr. Peter von Bethlenfalvy, Institute of Migration**
 - *"Coherence in the European Migration Policies?"*



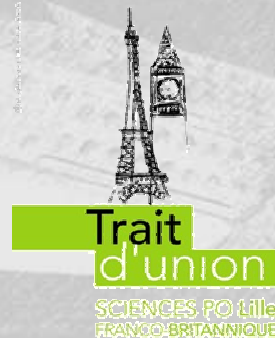


Over 100 attendees, with student representatives from:

- **ESSEC Business School, Paris, France**
- **Institut d'Études Politiques Lille/University of Kent**
- **École Normale Supérieure, Lettres et Sciences Humaines, Lyon, France**
- **Imperial College London**
- **London School of Economics and Political Science**
- **University College London**

In three controversial debates:

- **This House Believes that the French have it right regarding the financial crisis.**
- **This House Believes in a European Defence Force**
- **This House Believes that the EU needs Great Britain more than it needs the EU**



Acknowledgements

- Prof. Philippe Lane, Attaché for higher education, French Embassy
 - For his support of the project from the very beginning, and for the financial sponsorship from the embassy.
- ESCP Europe, London Campus
 - As a key sponsor of the conference and a keen partner of the society and its activities.
- Our speakers:
 - Ms. Florence Mele, Mr. Hervé Mariton, Ms. Joanna Shaw, Mr. Maximilian Vermorken, Prof. Peter Walton, Mr. Maurice Fraser, Mr. Peter von Bethlenfalvy and Mr. Olivier Miart.
- Ms. Françoise Lafon, ESSEC Business School
 - For her invaluable help and advice regarding the organisation of the conference and arrangements for the team from ESSEC.
- Mr. David Wahl, Mr. Marc Odic and Mr. Charles Savary
 - For their expertise and experience as former students who undertook projects such as this.
- Ms. Niroshini Dahanayake, Ms. Pankaew Saksornchai and Mr. Maxwell Stead
 - For their help in organising logistics and for being there over the entire weekend

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