Higher education was organized in the late 19th century in the Antilles and Guyana: the law school opened only after World War II. In 1963, centers for postsecondary study in science and literature were founded as extensions of the University of Bordeaux. In 1970, the Centre Universitaire des Antilles et de la Guyane (CUAG) was established as an independent institution. However, the official date for the university’s founding is 1982. Today, the UAG is 13,173 students, 478 faculty, working and studying on six campuses in three distinct sites: Guadeloupe, Guyana, and Martinique.

◆ MAIN PROGRAMMES OF STUDY
A comprehensive institution with a medical school, UAG has six faculties and three institutes:
- Faculty of exact and natural sciences
- Faculty of law and economics of Guadeloupe
- Faculty of law and economics of Martinique
- Faculty of letters and humanities
- Faculty of medicine
- Faculty of physical education and athletics
- University institute of technology (IUT)
- Institute for preparation for the general administrative examination (IPAG)
- Guyana Institute of Higher Education (IESG)

◆ RESEARCH
Much of the research conducted at UAG centers on the natural environment, legal systems, history, economy, literature, and cultures of the Caribbean region, the Americas, and the Amazon. The university’s ministerial research contract for 2010-2013 recognizes 19 research units. The 2010-2013 contract identifies 3 broad research themes: sustainable development and biodiversity, land and society, and tropical biology and health.

◆ LOCATION
The geographical location of UAG is unique. Students and staff are spread over 3 areas:
- An archipelago, Guadeloupe (with 2 universities) located in the Antilles.
- Guyana, on the South American continent (2 universities)
- An island, Martinique, located in the Antilles (2 universities) Each region is between 6,000 to 7,000 kilometers from Paris, and the Antilles are 1,500 kilometers from Guyana. These geographical characteristics and the heterogeneous nature of the social and economic realities create management challenges that are unique to this area.