

DOCTORAL AWARD 2026

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THESIS DEFENDED IN 2024 AND 2025

THE CHAIRE OF VINE AND WINE

The Chaire of Vine and Wine gathers Institut Agro Montpellier, INRAE and Université de Montpellier as well as nine companies : AdVini, AgroSud, Diam, Grands Chais de France, ICV, InVivo Foundation, Lallemand Oenology, Mercier and Moët Hennessy.

The chair is designed as a think tank gathering companies from the vine and wine sector and Montpellier's research and education arena, to carry out actions of common interest in relation to Training, Research and Knowledge Transfer.

The chair's work is structured around five priority themes :

- Climate change mitigation and adaptation ;
- Reduction of environmental impact ;
- Improvement of wine qualities ;
- Response to new consumers and markets expectations ;
- Foresight : imagine futures for the sector and prepare for them.

AMOUNT OF PRIZE

The Chaire of Vine and Wine offers a prize of **2,000 euros** to reward a PhD thesis defended in 2024 or 2025, of high scientific quality, and falling within one of the five priority themes above.

VALORIZATION OF SCIENTIFIC WORK

This prize aims to give visibility to the work of the winner among the wine industry. Technical and financial support will be offered to encourage the valorization of this work : publication in a professional journal, production of a webinar, participation in a conference, etc. Financial assistance of up to **1,500 euros** may be provided for this promotion.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- The prize is awarded to a candidate of any nationality, having defended his/her PhD thesis in a European Union between **1st January 2024 and 31st December 2025** ;
- The research topic covered in the thesis must concern one or more of the chair's four priority themes ;
- The thesis must not be confidential.

APPLICATION FILE

- A 2-3 page note, written in English or in French, presenting the issues of the thesis, the work carried out and the main results
- CV of the candidate
- Reports of the thesis referees
- A copy of the thesis (electronic file)

Applications must be sent by **February 12, 2026**, only by e-mail, to the following address: camille.breysse@supagro.fr.

AWARD OF THE PRIZE

The Chair's Strategic Steering Committee, which includes representatives of institutional members and private partners, will select the winner.

There are six selection criteria:

- Address one or more of the four priority themes of the chair
- Valorization of work, including publication of articles
- Quality of scientific contribution
- Quality of the work of synthesis : ability to summarize and make accessible to an uninitiated public the work and results achieved
- Innovative contribution, pushing further the front of science, opening up new perspectives
- The interest of work for the wine sector

The three best candidates will be invited to present their thesis in front of the Strategic Steering Committee of the Chaire of Vine and Wine, on **April 7, 2026**, at Institut Agro Montpellier.

Travel expenses will be covered by the Chair. If a candidate is unable to be present, a videoconference presentation will be possible.

The prize of 2,000 euros is conditional on the production of a 5-10 minute video, in which the doctor presents the challenges of his or her thesis, the results obtained and their interest for the industry. This video will be requested from the three shortlisted candidates. The winning video will be posted on the Chair's website.

The winner will be invited to present his or her results at the Journée Scientifique Vigne et Vin, on **April 8, 2025**, at the Institut Agro Montpellier (if the winner is unable to attend, his or her video presentation will be broadcast).

CALENDAR

For 2025, the schedule is as follows :

- On December 8, 2025 : distribution of the call for applications
- Up to February 12, 2026 : submission of applications by email to camille.breysse@supagro.fr
- February and March 2026 : pre-selection of the 3 best candidates
- On April 7, 2026 : Oral presentations of the 3 pre-selected candidates and selection of the winner
- On April 8, 2026 : Award ceremony