

# French National School of Video Games and Digital Interactive Media

## Academic Team

This page details the academic advisors and teaching team who look after the International Master's degree. It will be updated with the full list in due course.



### Professor Axel Buendia, PhD

**Founder and Head of Spir.Ops, Doctorate in Artificial Intelligence, Teacher and Holder of Cnam's Digital Interactive Media Research Chair and Director of Cnam-Enjmin**

Axel Buendia is one of the **founders of Spir.Ops, an independent AI think tank, since 2004.**

As a doctorate and having worked in several video game studios, such as Cryo or Polygon Studios, he has acquired the experience needed to create advanced tools to design the behaviours of tomorrow.

Since creating Spir.Ops, he has worked together with different renowned studios, such as Ubisoft, on different genres of games, including sport, FPS and adventure.

**He has been an Associate Professor at Cnam** for several years and has taught AI in different higher-educational establishments, including Cnam-Enjmin. With one foot in the industry and the other in academia, he tries to bring this balanced and modern vision of the sector, bringing together research and industry needs.

**Axel Buendia is the current Director of Cnam-Enjmin.**

[LinkedIn](#)



## David Elahee

### Educational Leadership and Engineering Manager - Game Programming

Game Programmer | Code Artist | Studio Founder and Director | Event Organiser | Former President of a Video Game Cluster

David Elahee is a veteran of the video game industry. As a third-party developer, he worked for main industry players such as Ubisoft or Activision. He then joined the independent developers' community under the alias 'Blackmagic' in the cooperative studio Motion Twin. He is also the co-founder of several festivals and associations. He has taken part in over 70 video game projects and today co-runs the Headbang Club studio which he founded with his friends.

[LinkedIn](#)



## Farhanaz "Joy" Elahee

### Educational Leadership and Engineering Manager - Game Art

Game Artist | Author | Artistic and Creative Director | Game Poet

Farhanaz aka Joy worked and specialised as a 2D and 3D Animator in the video game industry at Ubisoft as well as other video game studios. She has also worked on several animated series in France and for Disney. She is also a

Character Designer, Narrative Designer and Illustrator. In 2022, she co-founded the Purple Meadows studio. She is now an Artistic and Creative Director, and is part of a group of International Game Poets. She has published a dozen books, one of which won the UNESCO Research Chair Label for Sexual Health and Human Rights.

[LinkedIn](#)



## Lucile Cacciuttolo

**Educational Leadership and Engineering Manager - Game Design**

Game Designer | Game Design Teacher

Lucile started out as a Graphic Designer in the video game industry and has most notably worked on *Adibou*, *Spyro* and *Transformers*. She has also worked on several animation series, such as *Grabouillon* and *La Chouette & Cie* which were broadcast on French TV channel France Télévision. As a Game Designer, she has created over 50 games and interactive experiences on touch screen tablets and other innovative devices. From 2022 to 2023, she worked at Ubisoft, where her main project was to create their amusement park.

[LinkedIn](#)



# Alison Derolez

## Educational Leadership and Engineering Manager - Project Management

Game Producer | Production Consultant

Alison started out in the video game industry in 2014, first working with the game publisher, Anuman interactive, before switching to Koalabs development studio to oversee production of a game in the *Syberia* series. She has worked in development studios, as well as freelance on several projects. She offers consulting services in Game Design, Narrative Design and Production. Alison has worked on around 30 games in different managerial positions, from defining the project's vision, managing the project and supporting the teams in the creation process. Most recently, she was Game Producer at Goblinz studio working on *Legend of Keepers* and *Sandwalkers*.

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