



Unaite *Fellowship*

for AI in Biology

FOUNDING WHITE PAPER

April 2026

Paris — London — Stanford

Introduction	3
1. Vision & Identity	3
1.1 Origin	3
1.2 Mission Statement	4
1.3 Core Values	4
1.4 The Singular Partnership	4
2. Membership	5
2.1 Membership Categories	5
2.2 Selection Criteria	5
2.3 Application Process	6
2.4 Member Obligations	6
2.5 Pioneer Network	7
3. Programs & Activities	8
3.1 Annual Cohort Cycle	8
3.2 Mentorship Programme	9
3.2.1 What We Offer Mentors	9
3.2.2 What We Ask of Mentors	9
3.2.3 Optional Collaborations	9
3.3 Research Collaboration	9
3.4 Flagship Events	10
4. Chapter Architecture	11
4.1 Rationale for the Three-Chapter Model	11
4.2 Chapter Independence & Cohesion	11
4.3 Mobility Protocol	12
5. Governance	13
5.1 Organisational Structure	13
5.2 Steering Committee	13
5.3 Chapter Leads	13
5.4 Decision-Making Principles	14
5.5 Relationship with UnaiTe	14
5.6 Singular as Venture Partner	14
6. Financial Model	16
6.1 Philosophy	16
7. Roadmap	17
7.1 Phase Timeline	17
7.2 Success Metrics (3-Year Horizon)	17
Chance favours the prepared mind.	18

Introduction

The Unaité Fellowship for AI in Biology is a selective international research community operating under the Unaité umbrella, dedicated to the intersection of Artificial Intelligence and Biology. Founded in Paris in 2026 and designed to expand to London and Stanford, the Fellowship unites the most ambitious students, future researchers, and entrepreneurs at this frontier through rigorous peer selection, structured mentorship by world-class scientists and a strong alumni network spanning three continents.

This white paper constitutes the founding document of the Fellowship. It establishes the mission, membership rules, program structure, governance, financial model, and multi-year roadmap that will guide the community from its inaugural Paris cohort to a globally recognized fellowship brand.

15-20	5	3	2026-28
Members / cohort	Mentors / year	Founding chapters	Launch timeline

1. Vision & Identity

1.1 Origin

Unaité was created to bring together ambitious students from France's leading engineering and business schools under a single, ambitious identity. With each edition of its events including Hackeurope it has demonstrated that a bold, well-branded community of students can accomplish things at a scale that surprises even its own members.

The **Unaité Fellowship for AI in Biology** grows directly from this conviction. It is a vertical layer within Unaité, a focused, permanent sub-community for the subset of members who are building at the most consequential frontier of our time: the application of machine intelligence to the life sciences.

The founding members are further convinced that research need not be confined to the walls of a university laboratory or gated behind the financing of a doctoral program. The Fellowship is built on the belief that a team of motivated individuals, given the right structure, mentorship and community, can produce work of great scientific value regardless of their institutional

affiliation. Research is a practice before it is a credential, and it belongs to anyone willing to do it seriously.

1.2 Mission Statement

To identify, unite, and accelerate the most ambitious people working at the intersection of Artificial Intelligence and Biology, providing them with elite peers, world-class mentors, and institutional identity to make their work visible to the world.

1.3 Core Values

1. **Scientific rigor.** Members are selected and evaluated on the quality of their thinking, not their credentials alone.
2. **Ambition.** The Fellowship is for people building things that matter foundation models for genomics, AI-driven drug discovery, computational protein design, microbiology among others.
3. **Intellectual generosity.** Knowledge, opportunities and feedback circulate freely within the community.
4. **Diversity of approach.** Experimental biologists, ML engineers, bioinformaticians, computational chemists and physicists all belong.
5. **Long-term belonging.** Once a Fellow, always a Fellow.

1.4 The Singular Partnership

Because researchers at the AI x Biology frontier deserve infrastructure that matches their ambition, **the Fellowship was built with the support of Singular**, a Paris and London-based venture capital firm investing at the frontier of AI, Deep Tech, and Life Sciences, as its Venture Partner. We believe the most ambitious researchers here will not stop at publishing, but will act on what they find. Singular brings what researchers need on that path: the experience of turning bold ideas into real-world ventures that will shape the future of biology.

2. Membership

2.1 Membership Categories

Category	Description	Eligibility
Active Fellow	Current student or researcher, enrolled in the annual program	Application and selection
Senior Fellow	Active Fellow who has completed at least one full year	Automatic upon renewal
Alumni Fellow	Graduated member; permanent network access	Automatic upon graduation
Founding Fellow	Member of the inaugural Paris cohort (Promo 1)	By direct invitation
Mentor	External expert; one-year renewable term	Invitation by Steering Committee
Pioneer	Founder, entrepreneur, or KOL at the frontier of AI x Biology, publicly associated with the Fellowship	Invitation by Steering Committee
Partner	Institutional or corporate affiliate	Partnership agreement

2.2 Selection Criteria

Admission is competitive and holistic. The Admissions Committee evaluates candidates on the following dimensions:

- **Scientific track record:** publications, research contributions, thesis work, or significant open-source projects in AI or biology. This is put in perspective with the age of the candidate.¹
- **Ambition and clarity of purpose:** demonstrated vision for what they want to build, not restricted to what they have done.
- **Collaborative posture:** evidence of working well in teams and contributing to communities beyond their own projects.
- **Complementarity:** each cohort should cover diverse angles: modalities, methods, and geographies.

Acceptance rate should remain below **20%**. Cohort size is capped at **20 members per chapter per year** to privilege quality over quantity.

¹ A candidate who has independently designed, implemented and documented a technically complex project, even without institutional affiliation or external validation, may demonstrate exactly the kind of rigor and initiative the Fellowship is looking for.

2.3 Application Process

1. **Open call.** Applications are open for a 4-week window, promoted via UnaiTe channels, lab mailing lists, and chapter social networks.
2. **Written application.** Candidates submit their application via a dedicated comprehensive form.
3. **Peer nomination.** Any existing Fellow may formally endorse a candidate. Endorsements carry weight but do not guarantee admission.
4. **Review.** The Admissions Committee of 3-5 Senior Fellows reviews all dossiers and produces a filtered and ranked shortlist.
5. **Mentor selection.** The dossiers are split into groups and sent to the mentors who produce the final selection.
6. **Offer.** Accepted candidates receive a formal offer letter and have 10 days to confirm.

Member Obligations

- **Attend $\geq 70\%$** of chapter events per semester (excused absences accepted)
- **Contribute actively to at least one collective initiative** (paper club, research project, mentorship session, even organisation)
- **Respond to peer requests** for feedback, introductions, or review within reasonable timelines.
- **Maintain confidentiality** of private community discussions.
- **Conduct an independent research project.** Each Active Fellow is expected to pursue at least one independent research project over the course of the year, whether solo or in collaboration with other Fellows, which is encouraged, culminating in a shareable output (preprint, code repository, technical write-up, or presentation at the Year Review). This project is the core academic commitment of the Fellowship. Participants will benefit from mentorship and regular exchanges throughout the fellowship via events held over the year. They may either bring their own research direction or take ownership of a topic proposed by one of the mentors.

Fellows who fail to meet these obligations may be placed on a *leave status* by the Chapter Lead after a private conversation.

2.5 Pioneer Network

Beyond the mentor class, the Fellowship builds a broader constellation of Pioneers: founders, entrepreneurs, and key figures shaping the AI x Biology landscape in each hub. The ask is light by design. The pioneers are not mentors. They show up at the annual flagship event, lend their name publicly to the Fellowship, and offer Fellows the occasional introduction or 30-minute conversation. They contribute more through their signal than their time commitment.

Across Paris, London, and Stanford, the goal is to build a visible network of 20 to 30 Pioneers per hub, drawn from the most credible companies and labs at the frontier.

Eligibility criteria for Pioneers:

- **Active entrepreneur.** Currently founding, leading, or operating a company or research group at the AI x Biology frontier.
- **Recognized in their hub.** Known and respected within the Paris, London, or Stanford ecosystem. Their name carries weight with the researchers and founders in their city.
- **Public track record.** Has built something visible: a company, a lab, a tool, a body of research that the community knows and references.
- **Genuine alignment.** Believes in the mission of training and connecting the next generation of AI x Biology researchers and entrepreneurs.
- **Accessible in principle.** Willing to be reachable to Fellows on an occasional, async basis.

3. Programs & Activities

3.1 Annual Cohort Cycle

Each academic year follow a structured rhythm:

Period	Event	Description
June	Selection Evening	An open evening bringing together mentors, partners, pioneers, and the 80 applicants. Structured around meeting and conversation. The first moment of contact between the Fellowship community and candidates
Sept	Opening Ceremony	Fellows and mentors meet as a cohort for the first time in their confirmed roles. Mentors present their work and possible research directions in depth
Oct	Cohort Retreat	Half-day offsite: research lightning talks, goal-setting for the year, and establishing working dynamics within the cohort.
Monthly	Paper club	Every 2-4 weeks deep-dive into a BioAI paper, rotating presenter, open to Unaite members as guests
Monthly	Fellow Dinners	Informal dinners, 10-15 people, no agenda; relationship building
Monthly	Mentor follow-up on research projects	Short updates for direction and scientific advices between assigned mentor and fellow teams
1x/year	Venture Partner Session	A curated session with founders, operators & investors. Fellows get direct, unfiltered insight into the entrepreneurial path.
1x/year	Pitch Your Thesis	An open stage where Fellows present their research in accessible terms to an audience of scientific entrepreneurs.
2x/year	Mentor Sessions	2-hour structured session: mentor presents career/research, then breakout conversations in groups of 3-4 Fellows
Spring	Flagship Event	Annual public event or hackathon co-organised with Unaite (see §3.5)
June	Year Review	Celebration dinner; presentation of cohort achievements; Alumni transition ceremony

3.2 Mentorship Program

The mentor program is the crown jewel of the Fellowship. Each year, the Steering Committee recruits a *class of mentors*: 3-6 recognized figures from the BioAI world who commit to a one-year agreement.

What We Offer Mentors

- Visibility with the best-selected early-career BioAI students and researchers in Europe and the US.
- Name and affiliation on all Fellowship communications for one year.
- Association with a growing, respected brand at a pivotal moment in BioAI.
- Access to cohort talent for internship / PhD recruitment.

What We Ask of Mentors

- One introductory session with the full cohort at the start of their term
- 2-3 small-group sessions (3-5 Fellows each) per year, focused on research guidance or career advice.
- Availability for asynchronous questions (email) at their own discretion.

Optional Collaborations

- A short written reflection for the biannual newsletter
- Participation in informal dinners throughout the year, bringing together Fellows, Sponsors, and Investors

3.3 Research Collaboration

Independent research projects are a core deliverable of the Fellowship year. Every Fellow is expected to carry at least one project, individual or collaborative, from inception to a public or community-facing output. The mechanisms below exist to support and amplify that work.

- [Project marketplace](#) at the Cohort Retreat, members pitch open research problems seeking collaborators.

- **Compute & resource sharing.** Senior Fellows and Alumni who have access to compute or wet-lab resources can open these to projects.
- **Publication credit:** collaborative outputs are published with author affiliations listing Unaiite Fellowship for AI in Biology, building the brand's scientific footprint

3.4 Flagship Events

Once per year, each active chapter organizes a public flagship event under the joint Unaiite / Unaiite Fellowship for AI in Biology brand. This serves as the primary external visibility moment and revenue driver.

Format proposal: Hackathon Unaiite & Biology

A 24-hours hackathon open to Unaiite members and the broader community, with challenge tracks designed by the Fellowship. Sponsors provide prizes and mentors judge. The Fellowship recovers the surplus of sponsor contributions over direct costs.

4. Chapter Architecture

4.1 Rationale for the Three-Chapter Model

The choice of Paris, London and Stanford is not incidental. These three places represent the three of the densest ecosystems for BioAI research in the world.

Chapter	Ecosystem	Natural Member Profile
Paris	Institut Pasteur, Owkin, Bioprimus, Inria, ENS, Polytechnique, Curie	Students from Grandes Ecoles, Inria/Inserm researchers, BioAI startup founders
London	Francis Crick Institute, DeepMind, Wellcome Sanger, Imperial College, UCL	PhD & postdoc students, London BioAI researchers, UK biotech
Stanford	Stanford HAI, Arc Institute, Chan Zuckerberg Biohub, UCSF, Berkeley	PhD & postdoc students, West Coast BioAI entrepreneurs, HAI-affiliated researchers

4.2 Chapter Independence & Cohesion

Each chapter is **operationally autonomous**: it runs its own admissions, events, and local partnerships under the common framework defined in this document. Global cohesion is maintained through:

- **Annual inter-chapter gathering**: one weekend event per year rotating between the three cities; the flagship community moment.
- **Shared digital infrastructure**: one Whatsapp group, one Drive workspace, one newsletter.
- **Cross-chapter governance**: the Steering Committee includes one representative per chapter (see §5).
- **Mobility rights**: any Fellow visiting another chapter city is automatically welcomed at local events.

4.3 Mobility Protocol

When a Fellow relocates permanently to a chapter city, the following protocol applies:

1. Outgoing chapter lead writes a formal letter of introduction to the incoming chapter lead.
2. Fellow is introduced at the next Fellow dinner of the new chapter.
3. Fellow retains full membership status and alumni ties to their origin chapter.

This transforms geographic transitions into community moments, rather than disrupting the network.

5. Governance

5.1 Organizational Structure

The Fellowship operates within the [Unaite association](#), which retains a formal advisory role and exercises oversight over decisions engaging the shared brand and co-organized events.

Strategic direction is shaped in partnership with [Singular](#), the Fellowship's Venture Partner, which acts as an active advisor on positioning, entrepreneurship-facing programming, and external partnerships, while holding no governance seat.

The supreme governing body is the [Steering Committee](#), composed of one elected [Chapter Lead](#) per active chapter, the Fellowship Founder(s) during the founding period through 2028, and one elected Alumni representative; it meets monthly and holds authority over major program decisions, mentor appointments, new chapter approvals, and significant financial commitments.

Each Chapter Lead, elected annually by a simple majority of active Fellows within their chapter, carries operational responsibility for admissions, the local event calendar, sponsor relationships, and representation at the Steering Committee. Admissions are conducted by a dedicated [Admissions Committee](#) of three to five Senior Fellows, who review and rank all applications before forwarding a shortlist to the mentor class for final selection decisions.

5.2 Steering Committee

The Steering Committee (SC) is the supreme governing body of the Fellowship. It comprises:

- One [Chapter Lead](#) per active chapter (elected annually by chapter Fellows)
- The [Fellowship Founder\(s\)](#) (permanent seat during founding period, until 2028)
- One [Alumni representative](#) (elected annually by Alumni Fellows)

The SC meets monthly (remotely) and decides on: major program changes, mentor appointments, new chapter approvals, financial commitments above 2,000, and code-of-conduct cases.

5.3 Chapter Leads

Each Chapter Lead is elected annually by a simple majority vote of active Fellows within their chapter. Responsibilities include:

- Running admissions in their chapter
- Organizing the chapter event calendar
- Representing the chapter at the Steering Committee
- Maintaining relationships with local sponsors and institutional partners

5.4 Decision-Making Principles

- **Lazy consensus** proposals circulated in writing for 5 days; silence counts as assent for routine matters.
- **Simple majority vote** for substantive decisions.
- **Supermajority (2/3)** required for amendments to this white paper, chapter closure, or expulsion of a member.

5.5 Relationship with Unaité

The Fellowship operates as a vertical within the Unaité association and maintains a structural relationship with it. Unaité retains a formal advisory role in the Fellowship's governance of the Fellowship and may exercise a right of regard over decisions that engage the Unaité brand, co-organised events, or shared infrastructure. In practice, this means that at least one designated representative of Unaité's core leadership is kept informed of the Steering Committee's decisions and may raise objections on matters that affect the broader Unaité community.

On the event side, Unaité may actively co-organize Fellowship flagship events, in particular the annual hackathon, contributing its logistics experience, existing sponsor relationships, and community reach. In these cases, decision-making over format, communication, and budget allocation is shared, and the event is branded jointly. The Fellowship benefits from Unaité's operational infrastructure and network, while Unaité gains a high-signal scientific vertical that strengthens its identity at the frontier of AI and Biology.

5.6 Singular as Venture Partner

The Fellowship operates with a single Venture Partner: Singular. Singular's involvement is strategic: a shared conviction that the researchers and entrepreneurs at the AI x Biology frontier deserve infrastructure that matches their ambition, and that the bridge between rigorous science and impactful company-building is one worth constructing deliberately.

Operational independence is preserved. The Fellowship is governed by its Steering Committee and Chapter Leads. Singular holds no seat in its governance. Program design, admissions, and community decisions remain entirely with the Unai team, but Singular acts as an active strategic advisor, engaged in shaping the Fellowship's positioning, the entrepreneurship-facing dimensions of its program, and the quality of its external partnerships.

External communications produced under the Fellowship brand are reviewed and approved by Singular prior to publication, ensuring alignment with the standards and identity that both organizations are building together.

What Singular brings:

- **Credibility and reach.** Singular's association with the Fellowship amplifies its signal to institutions, potential mentors, and future partners.
- **Portfolio access for partnerships.** Singular's portfolio spans some of the most ambitious AI and life science companies in Europe. Fellows gain privileged access to these companies as research partners, internship hosts, and challenge setters, through warm introductions.
- **A window into the entrepreneurial ecosystem.** Through curated sessions with founders, operators, and investors from Singular's network, Fellows receive something no academic program delivers: unfiltered, first-hand insight into how great deep-tech companies are actually built. These sessions are designed to inspire and to inform, not to recruit.
- **From lab to company.** For Fellows considering the entrepreneurial path, Singular provides direct, practical guidance on what that transition requires: how to frame a research insight as a market opportunity, what the first 12 months of a deep-tech company look like in practice, how to build a founding team, and what it takes to raise from serious investors.
- **Platform access.** Unai & Fellows have access to Singular's full operational platform: office spaces in Paris and London for events and working sessions, communication channels and marketing reach to amplify the Fellowship's visibility, and access to Singular's network of operational experts.

6. Financial Model

6.1 Philosophy

The Fellowship **does not need significant capital to operate**. Its core value peer community, mentorship, and network is human, not financial. Capital is instrumental here: it covers events, travel grants, and compute, and nothing more. The model is designed to **be sustainable from year one** and to improve as chapters mature.

The financial model is built on one conviction: sponsors are not buying a logo, they are buying repeatable access to a curated pool of early-career BioAI talent that they cannot find anywhere else at this density. Every benefit tier is designed around that proposition.

On the scope of partner benefits. The benefits listed in the tiers below represent a minimal, carefully considered set. Serious partners will find more. We are aware that the value of proximity to a curated BioAI community compounds over time in ways that are difficult to quantify upfront: a Fellow who joins a company's lab, a research collaboration, a mentor relationship that reshapes a PhD trajectory. Partners who engage seriously with the community will consistently find that the return exceeds what any formal benefits document can promise.

An open invitation. The Fellowship actively invites prospective partners, companies, research institutes, and foundations, to come to the table with their own ideas. The perks described here reflect what we know matters; they do not exhaust what is possible. If your organization has a specific need, access to a particular research direction, a format for engagement we have not thought of, or a contribution you would like to make to the community, we want to hear it. The best partnerships grow out of genuine alignment, which no fixed menu can anticipate. Reach out to the Chapter Lead of the relevant chapter to start that conversation.

7. Roadmap

7.1 Phase Timeline

The Fellowship launches in four sequential phases spanning 2026 to 2028. Phase 0, running from February to April 2026, covers the foundational groundwork: forming the founding team, drafting this white paper, securing the Unaiite anchor, and establishing the brand. Phase 1, from May to September 2026, marks the Fellowship's public debut, applications open, the first Paris cohort (Promo 1) is recruited, at least two mentors are secured, and the year is launched with the Kick-off Dinner. Phase 2, from October 2026 through June 2027, delivers the full Paris program in operation: all annual cycle events are held, the first flagship event takes place, recruitment opens for Promo 2, and preparatory work begins for a London chapter. Phase 3, spanning 2027 to 2028, completes the multi-chapter vision: the London chapter launches, the first inter-chapter gathering brings all communities together, Stanford chapter preparation begins, and the Fellowship reaches its founding target of three active chapters.

7.2 Success Metrics (3-Year Horizon)

Metric	Year 1	Year 2
Active Fellows (total, all chapters)	15-20	30-40
Active mentors	3-6	9-15
Active chapters	1	2
Acceptance rate	< 25%	< 5%
Collaborative publications / preprints	0-1	5-10
Alumni in PhD / research positions	-	> 15

Long-term Ambition: Within five years, “Unaiite Fellowship for AI in Biology” should carry the same signal weight on a CV as an EF fellowship or a Fulbright grant in the BioAI community, a mark of rigorous selection, genuine ambition, and belonging to a network that matters.

Chance favours the prepared mind.

LOUIS PASTEUR

April 2026

Join Us.

PARIS • LONDON • STANFORD

UNAITE • AI X BIOLOGY • INTERDISCIPLINARY • INTERNATIONAL