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 VERSION

AUSJAL *al día*

Executive Secretary Newsletter. Latin American Universities Entrusted to the Society of Jesus

Leaders at Leon

The pilot experiences of the AUSJAL Formation Program for Latin-American Ignacian University Leaders had its closing activity at the «Universidad Iberoamericana de Leon». The participant universities in this pilot experience were «Pontificia Universidad Javeriana» (Bogota and Cali, Colombia), «Universidad Rafael Landivar» (Guatemala), «Universidad Iberoamericana de Leon» (Mexico), «Universidad Catolica Andres Bello» (Venezuela) and «Universidad Catolica Del Tachira» (Venezuela). The agenda included the experience evaluation, the training for the new coordinators and trainers of the universities that will join the program on its second edition, and the 1st Latin-American Conference on Ignacian University Leadership.

The Program's Latin-American coordination team (Elkin Arango S.J., Raul Hernan Restrepo, S.J., Claudia Mora and Angela Jaramillo), along with the coordinators (Wilfredo Gonzalez, S.J., Ricardo Marquez, Gustavo Spinel, Rodolfo Marin and Francisco Marquez), and Susana Di Trollo, analyzed the students and trainers evaluations in order to make the required adjustments on objectives, methodology, and contents.

Also, during the event, the coordinators and trainers of the universities that will be added to the next program edition were introduced to the logic and dynamics of this experience. These universities are «Universidad Catolica del Ecuador», UIA - Mexico City; UCA – Managua, Nicaragua; and UCAB – Guayana, Venezuela.



At last, the agenda included the 1st Latin-American Forum on Ignacian University Leadership with the participation of first edition's students and trainers. Gerardo Valenzuela S.J. opened the conference and talked about the participants' commitment of building a better world in this activity. «The preparation of tomorrow's young leaders for the Latin-American society is a



challenge; young men and women, you are destined to commit to your countries as they claim for liberation of what ties and stop them from being human spaces for development and inclusion.»

The Conference included three lectures as well; two lectures about the Latin-American social and political situation, given by PUJ – Cali (Colombia) and UIA (Mexico); and a third lecture, by Susana Di Trollo AUSJAL Executive Secretary, about the social and educative networks of the Latin-American Jesuit Society and the role that their students, in an organized way, may perform through them.

Each university presented a documentary about their experience where they showed, from their own perspective, their most relevant work and the time and space contexts in which the videos were recorded.

The participants deliberate on the conformation of a Latin-American Ignacian University Network with clear mission and objectives, and provided ideas to specify the terms of the initiative and the way it would work.

AUSJAL will offer all the support to those students' initiatives for enhancing a Latin-American network with clear, viable, sustainable objectives

EDUTIC is already a network of peers

The responsible for promoting ICTs on education in AUSJAL universities constituted the Edutic-AUSJAL Network of Peers, which is coordinated by Omayra Parra from the «Universidad Javeriana» of Bogota. The participants, representing the «Universidad Catolica del Uruguay», «Universidad Javeriana» of Bogota and Cali – Colombia, «Universidad Catolica del Ecuador», «Universidad Catolica Andres Bello» of Caracas, ITESO from Guadalajara (Mexico), «Universidad Rafael Landivar» of Guatemala, UCA of Managua (Nicaragua), UCA of El Salvador, UIA – Mexico City, «Universidad Catolica del Tachira» - Venezuela, «Universidad Alberto Hurtado» from Chile, «Universidad Antonio Ruiz de Montoya» from Peru and IUJO, gathered during September 18th and 19th in Bogota to present the most relevant experiences in the use of ICTs for each university, and to evaluate the AUSJAL ICTs projects where they identified improvement proposals for the network and established a plan for its maintenance.

The meeting included a presentation of PhD. Guillermo Hoyos Director from the «Pensar» Institute of the «Universidad Javeriana» (Bogota). The representatives of FLACSI and «Fe y Alegria» attended the meeting. In addition, the participants set an ambitious agenda that included not only the maintenance of the actual programs (Tutors Formation and ICTs Formation for University Professor) but also the possibility of including the CADE course, which was developed by AJCU and translated in Spanish by UIA (Leon, Mexico), to the universities' formation offer; also, to initiate bonding activities to EDUTICS' tutors and alumni, to develop a virtual space for exchange among the Network's members, and to make the initial steps for a network's research activity.

They agreed to have a virtual conference every second Thursdays of the month to coordinate the Networks' initiatives. During the meeting, they also explore possible synergies between the Edutic - AUSJAL Network and other AUSJAL programs such as the Continental Course on Poverty, the Network for Social University Responsibility and other educative works of the Jesuit Society such as «Fe y Alegria.»

In the other hand, this meeting allows them to establish contacts among the represented universities in order to identify possible areas for bilateral cooperation on ICTs.



AUSJAL en breves

Premier at «Javerianas» Universities. Greeting from AUSJAL to Joaquin Sanchez s.j., who has been elected as new president of the «Pontificia Universidad Javeriana - PUJ» of Bogota. Father Sanchez was president of PUJ - Cali and will replace Gerardo Remolina S.J., who was in charge of the Presidency in Bogota from 1999 until September 2007. Humberto Pelaez S.J., who has performed as academic vice-president of PUJ Cali until now, has been designated as new president for this university.

CELAM Presidents. Luis Ugalde S.J AUSJAL President attended the 13th Meeting of Catholic and Christian Inspiration Universities' Presidents celebrated from September 19th to 21st at PUC – Rio, Brazil. AUSJAL was represented also by Antonio Ocaña S.J President of «Universidad Catolica de Uruguay», Jesus Hortal S.J President of PUC-Rio, Manuel Corrales S.J President of «Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Ecuador», Pedro Rubens Ferreira S.J President of «Universidad Catolica de Pernambuco» (Brazil), and Rosso S.J and Nuñez S.J Vice-presidents of PUJ – Bogota and «Universidad Rafael Landivar» respectively.

Youth culture advances. Last September 27th, the professors group that works in the AUSJAL research of youth culture participated in the audio conference where important agreements on the scope of the instrument that will be used in the field of study, were achieved. Previously, on July 17th, a group of investigators had an initial virtual meeting where they established the working guidelines.

ICTs Graduations. The second edition of the Tutors Formation Diploma on Online Programs and the third edition of the ICTs Formation Diploma for University Professors have ended. The participants of the Tutors Formation Diploma graduated on July 25th and the ICTs University Professors graduated on September 13th. Both events were performed through videoconferences where the program's students, trainers and national coordinators participated.

The Network of Peers on University Social Responsibility defines indicators. As it was agreed on the plan of the 1st Meeting of the Network of Peers on University Social Responsibility, celebrated last May in Caracas, the Network's coordination, which is under the responsibility of the «Universidad Catolica de Cordoba» and representatives from the «Universidad Catolica del Uruguay» met in Cordoba, Argentina, to work on the construction of the preliminary document for AUSJAL policies on University Social Responsibility and to defined a common indicators matrix for social responsibility in AUSJAL universities.

Reviewing Values. The tutors team of the Course on Ethics and Values for University Professors, organized by the AUSJAL Network of Peers on Education and coordinated by the «Universidad Catolica del Uruguay», met in Caracas to analyze and evaluate the results of the first pilot experience. This experience was performed from April to June and included the participation of 70 professors from «Universidad Catolica del Uruguay», «Universidad Catolica Andrés Bello», «Universidad Javeriana» of Bogota and Cali, UIA – Mexico City, PUCE and UCA from Managua. Innovations concerning the course structure and contents will be incorporated on the second edition.

For teachers in deprived areas. Representatives from the «Fe y Alegria» International Federation held an audio conference with members of PUCE, UCAB, PUJ-Bogota, and the AUSJAL Executive Secretary to establish the guidelines and mechanisms in order to design formation course and offer them through virtual media to teachers of «Fe y Alegria» in deprived areas.