

URL, Guatemala, received the AUSJAL representatives

During October 15th and 16th, the Rafael Landivar University (URL) hosted the 2nd Meeting of Representatives and the 2nd Meeting of the Network of Peers on Academic Cooperation and Interinstitutional Relations (CARI). The event started with words of Luis Ugalde s.j. AUSJAL President. Later on, Susana Di Trolio AUSJAL Secretary informed about the initiatives and projects developed by AUSJAL during the last few years; the functions of AUSJAL's representatives were emphasized, specially regarding communication and projection inside the member universities to promote the members' identification with AUSJAL.

CARI'S Coordinator presented a report on the actions and projects developed by the network since its first meeting of 2005 and a report of the exchanges among AUSJAL universities and between these and other Jesuit universities in USA and Spain. Among other activities, the meeting included the presentation of the AUSJAL Virtual Diploma on International Cooperation for Development by the «Universidad Alberto Hurtado», the «Universidad Católica de Córdoba» and ITESO; and after an exchange of ideas among the participants, the universities pointed out their interest on nominating participants from their international cooperation departments for the first cohort of the program that will start on April 2008. Also, the «Universidad de Deusto» showed its interest to join this initiative so that the program reaches a larger scope.

The meeting included also two workshops about student mobility and academic cooperation agreements directed by PhD Rosa Marina Brito from PUC of Rio de Janeiro and PhD Sonia Fernandez from the UIA of Mexico City, respectively.

The participant universities were «Universidad Católica de Córdoba», «Pontificia Universidad Católica de Rio de Janeiro», «Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos» (UNISINOS), «Pontificia Universidad Javeriana» of Cali, «Universidad Alberto Hurtado», «Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador», UCA



- El Salvador, «Universidad Rafael Landivar», «Universidad Iberoamericana» – Mexico City, «Universidad Iberoamericana» – Puebla, «Universidad Iberoamericana» – Leon, UCA of Nicaragua, «Universidad Antonio Ruiz de Montoya» of Peru, «Universidad Pacifico del Peru», «Instituto Filosofico Pedro Francisco Bonó», «Instituto Universitario Jesús Obrero», «Universidad Católica Andres Bello» and «Universidad Católica de Tachira».

The meeting was also attended by PhD Julia Gonzalez International Relations Vice-President of the «Universidad de Deusto», and Professor Carmen Rico of Québec University.

Finally, a plan of CARI's work for the next two years was elaborated and it included projects such as the design and execution of training and actualization workshops for the personnel of the international cooperation and interinstitutional relations units as well as the preparation of a document about the common policies on international cooperation for AUSJAL.

Debut of new coordinator for the Network of Peers on Engineering

Francisco Rebolledo Dean of the Engineering Faculty of the «Universidad Javeriana» - Bogota was appointed as new coordinator of the Network of Peers on Engineering for the 2007 - 2009 period, on the meeting celebrated during the past October 29th and 30th in Bogota, Colombia. Among the agreements made during the event, stands out the beginning of the third cohort of the AUSJAL Course on Environment and Sustainable Development planned for March 2008 and which will be offered in «Universidad Iberoamericana» -Puebla and Mexico City; «Universidad Rafael Landivar», «Universidad Javeriana» - Bogota and Cali; «Universidad Católica del Ecuador», UCA - El Salvador, UCA - Nicaragua, «Universidad Católica de Córdoba» and UCAB. The «Pontificia Universidad Católica» of Rio de Janeiro and UNIFEI of São Pablo will translate the course contents from Spanish to Portuguese.

In the other hand, the final result of the certification of equivalence for engineering undergraduate program was approved as well as the authorization to sign the bilateral agreements for mutual academic degrees. The participants have committed to start the process for the certification of equivalence on Civil Engineering and Systems Engineering that will be lead by URL of Guatemala and Universidad Javeriana of Bogota, respectively.

Regarding the communicational aspect, the Universidad Iberoamericana of Mexico City will coordinate the actualization and relaunch of the network's web site. The PUC of Rio de Janeiro committed to design spaces for the promotion of the different postgraduate courses, to seek for fundraising opportunities for postgraduate courses, as well as to create debate spaces for investigators. The meeting was attended by the «Universidad Católica» of Rio de Janeiro, «Universidad Iberoamericana» of Mexico City, «Universidad Católica Andres Bello» (Caracas and Guayana), «Universidad Católica de Córdoba», «Universidad Rafael Landivar», UNIFEI- Brazil, «Pontificia Universidad Católica» of Ecuador, UCA - El Salvador, UCA of Nicaragua, «Universidad Javeriana» of Bogota and «Universidad Javeriana» of Cali, and the Projects Director of the AUSJAL Executive Secretariat.

Human Rights in Quetzaltenango

The national coordinators of the AUSJAL Diploma on Human Rights celebrated its annual meeting for evaluation and programming from November 7th to 9th, in the «Universidad Rafael Landivar», Quetzaltenango campus.

The coordinators of the «Universidad Católica» of Uruguay, «Universidad Javeriana» of Bogota, «Instituto Bonó» of Dominican Republic, «Universidad Católica Andres Bello», «Universidad Rafael Landivar», representatives of the AUSJAL Executive Secretariat and representatives of the RedLeidh Coordination from Toronto (Canada) attended this meeting. The regional coordination and coordinators presented the reports on the Diploma's situation, during the event.

The group planned the beginning of the 6th edition for April 2008. The «Universidad Iberoamericana» of Mexico City and the «Instituto Bonó» will offer two specialization areas; and UCAB, UCU, «Universidad Rafael Landivar» and «Universidad Javeriana» of Bogota will offer three specialization areas for this edition. The «Universidad Iberoamericana» of Mexico City presented an evaluation and proposals for the improvement of the Diploma's instructional design.

The work for updating and adapting the «Access to Justice» specialization to the new virtual classroom model, which allows maximizing the interaction between students and teachers from the different countries, was approved and planned.

Additionally, the participants programmed a virtual workshop for the program's tutors, the preparation of a book about human rights with the universities' investigations on the subject and the creation of a space in the AUSJAL Portal to include the alumni database in order to keep periodical contact with them. Finally, the evolution of the contents contributions for the Diploma of the Canadian Agency for International Development was analyzed.

AUSJAL breves

Fundraising for the Monitor for Poverty in Latin America. The Konrad Adenauer Foundation (Germany) approved the financing request presented by the AUSJAL Executive Secretariat to include resources of co-financing for the execution of the project «Latin American Observatory on Poverty» designed by the AUSJAL Network of Peers on Poverty. The project will have a length of three years and will include the participation of «Universidad Javeriana» of Cali (as Project's coordinator), «Universidad Javeriana» of Bogota, «Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Occidente de Mexico» (ITESO), «Universidad Iberoamericana» - Leon, «Universidad Iberoamericana» -Torreon, «Universidad Iberoamericana» – Mexico City, «Universidad Católica Andres Bello», «Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos» (UNISINOS), «Universidad Católica del Uruguay», «Universidad Católica del Ecuador», «Universidad Alberto Hurtado» of Chile and «Instituto Filosofico Pedro Francisco Bonó» of Dominican Republic. The components of the monitor were reviewed during an audioconference held on October 22nd. A meeting will be take place in Caracas in January 2008.

Attending the «Fe y Alegria» Assembly. The AUSJAL President Luis Ugalde s.j. represented AUSJAL at the 38th International Congress of «Fe y Alegria» celebrated in São Paulo from November 3rd to 6th 2007. The participants debated on the pedagogic, ethic and political dimensions of the proposal on popular education used in the educative centers.

Social Management Training. Representatives from the «Fe y Alegria» International Federation, CPAL, AUSJAL, FLACSI, Social Sector, the «Universidad Javeriana de Cali» and the General Father's Assistant for Latin America met in Santo Domingo to establish the guidelines for a course about social management and Ignacian leadership in order to improve the management practices of the Jesuit works by enhancing the formation of its current and potential directives.

An AUSJAL Day at UCAB Guayana. The AUSJAL Executive Secretariat visited the «Universidad Católica Andres Bello» of Guayana. The university's faculty had the opportunity to listen a conference were the AUSJAL characteristics were emphasized.

Working together for the teachers' formation in disadvantaged areas. The «Universidad Javeriana» of Bogota, the «Universidad Católica Andres Bello», the «Universidad Católica del Ecuador» and the «Universidad Antonio Ruiz de Montoya» of Peru, under the coordination of AUSJAL Executive Secretariat and «Fe y Alegria» International Federation (FIFYA), worked on a virtual program for the training of «Fe y Alegria» teachers in disadvantaged areas of Latin America, in the context of the agreement signed by AUSJAL and «Fe y Alegria» International Federation. To that end, two audioconferences have been done; also, a meeting will take place in Caracas in February 2008. The technical equipments of the universities and the FIFYA will work together in the contents and instructional design of the course.

The Digital Letter. Along with this edition of «AUSJAL al Día» you will find a link to the principal articles of the most recent edition of the AUSJAL Letter, in a digital format, which will be delivered directly on your PC. You may see them at www.ausjal.org/carta_digital

New face of AJCU on the Web. Starting this month, the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities of United States (www.ajcunet.edu/) presents a new face. This number of «AUSJAL al Día» is delivered along with an informative summary of the most recent edition of «Connections» an AJCU informative bulletin.

It was not in Puebla. The title published in «AUSJAL al Día» (number 16) about the event related to leadership read that it had been held at the «Universidad Iberoamericana de Puebla» instead of «Universidad Iberoamericana de Leon» were it actually took place. Please accept our apologies.