

AUSJAL's legal services in Bogotá

Eleven Legal Services' Departments from AUSJAL Universities and other thirteen Networks on Law and Migration attended the International Meeting on Legal Services, Access to Justice and Human Rights held in Bogotá. It was supported by the Canadian Cooperation Agency through REDLEIDH, the National University of Colombia and the Network on Law and Migration. It was coordinated by the Latin American Institute on Alternative Legal Services, ILSA, and AUSJAL.



The objectives of the event included: to analyze the international tendencies on the Human Rights' speech; to examine the role of legal services; and to share working experiences within the participant networks.

Among the conferences offered during this 5-days event, stand out: Rodrigo Uprumny's participation with «Strategic Court Case and Human Rights», and the conference of Professor Edgar Ardila from the National University of Colombia called «The Communitarian Justice as Access to Justice and Rights»

Representing AUSJAL attended Marcos Carrillo, UCAB's professor, who spoke about «Law Advisers' Bureau and Problems on Access to Justice», Benjamin Cuellar from UCA-EL Salvador who presented the conference «The Role of Legal Advisers on the Protection of Human Rights in Central America,» and Gloria Amezcua who explained the experience of the Jesuit Service for Refugees and Migrants.

The representatives from the Legal Services of AUSJAL Universities met and agreed to work on four themes: systematization of the Legal Services' experiences; defining the mission and vision of the AUSJAL Legal Services; and creating a research and formation area on migration and legal services. In order to do so there will be a meeting along with the Jesuit Service for Refugees in November 27th.

Trough audio conference

AUSJAL Executive Secretariat has kept monitoring the Network's performance on its projects and initiatives through audio conferences. One of these projects is meant for teachers in disadvantaged areas; it was reported that the specialists in contents have finished their work and the Course is nowadays in its designing phase. Also, the working group on Environment and Sustainability set the International Conference on Environment and Universities in March, 2009.

The Network on Poverty held a virtual meeting for project monitoring where the team of the «Universidad Católica del Uruguay» was fortified by Fernando Errandonea as new member. This group carries out the Academic Coordination of the Monitor Project on Poverty in Latin America.

At last, the group in charge of the AUSJAL Universities' publications agreed to meet in the middle of 2009. This group aims to consolidate agreements in order to facilitate the publications' exchange and co-editing projects among the AUSJAL universities.

AUSJAL en Breves

New Presidents in AUSJAL. The «Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Occidente» (ITESO) designated PhD. Juan Luis Orozco Hernandez SJ as new President. He will replace Hector Acuña Nogueira SJ. The commitment assumed by Juan Luis Orozco Hernandez SJ during his speech as new ITESO President was to establish a humanistic and permanent dialogue with the most disadvantaged people, with local and regional governments, with other religions, with other universities, with the civil society, with the regional entrepreneurs, and with the University's faculty, employees and students. Also, PhD. José María Cantó SJ took place as new president of the San Miguel Faculties of Philosophy and Theology, replacing Juan Carlos Scannone SJ.

Getting connected with other networks. In order to continue stretching links with other Jesuit Networks, Luis Ugalde SJAUSJAL President attended the meeting of the Jesuit Universities System which reunites the Jesuit Universities of Mexico. He presented a conference title «Globalization, Welfare State and Neoliberalism.» He participated also in the Assembly of the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU) in Chicago as well as the Assembly of the «Fe y Alegria» International Federation which was held in Lima.

Meeting of the CPAL Educative Sector. The educative sub-sectors of the Latin-American Provincials Conference held its annual meeting in Lima. Luis Ugalde SJAUSJAL President, Jorge Cela SJ from «Fe y Alegria», Alex Pizarro SJ from FLACSI, Alfredo Ferro SJ representing the Social Sector, and Jesus Montero Tirado SJ Sector's coordinator. The meeting included the presentation of reports from different networks, the Educative Sector's projects, as well as CPAL's organizational themes. At the beginning of the meeting, Ernesto Cavassa SJ CPAL President spoke to the audience to address what CPAL expects from the Sector.

IUJO of Petare starts its activities. The headquarters of «Instituto Universitario Jesus Obrero» which is located in «Petare,» a crowded area of Caracas, has been authorized to start its academic activities in the concentration areas of Electronics and Special Education. It is expected to start Industrial-Mechanics in two months. This approval was achieved after a three-year effort. We congratulate IUJO on this new accomplishment.

«Ethics and Values» starts in April. The beginning of the 3rd Edition of the AUSJAL Course on Ethics and Values for University Teachers has been set in April 20th, 2009. The course will end in the middle of July. Those interested may write to Monica Costa in the «Universidad Católica del Uruguay» (mocosta@ucu.edu.uy) for more information.