

AUSJAL *al día*

Órgano Divulgativo de la Secretaría Ejecutiva de la Asociación de Universidades Confiadas a la Compañía de Jesús en América Latina

16th AUSJAL Assembly appoints new Board of Directors



The 16th AUSJAL Assembly met in Rio de Janeiro and appointed Jose Morales Orozco s.j., who is currently president of the "Universidad Iberoamericana" (Mexico City), as the new AUSJAL president for the 2009-2011 period. He will replace Luis Ugalde s.j. who was in charge of the Association since 1999. The rest of the Board of Directors includes Luis Rafael Velasco s.j. (President of "Universidad Catolica de Cordoba", Argentina), Joaquin Sanchez s.j. (President of "Pontificia Universidad Javeriana", Colombia), and Pedro Rubens Ferreira s.j. (President of "Universidad Catolica de Pernambuco", Brazil).

A meeting, with the former President and the Executive Secretariat, took place in Caracas,

although the new AUSJAL president was not able to attend, in person, to the election.

Ernesto Cavassa s.j. President of the Latin American Conference of Jesuit Provincials (CPAL) attended the meeting and expressed the CPAL's desire that this new Board of Directors may keep carving out the AUSJAL Network and developing synergies among the Ignacian apostolic body which includes the religious and secular associates.

During the conference "CPAL and the Jesuit Strategic Plan for Latin-America" offered by Cavassa, he said that: "the new AUSJAL Board of Directors has two important tasks; this are: preparing the World Meeting for Jesuit Universities' Presidents along with the General Father, which will take place in Mexico (April 2010); and, formulating a Common Apostolic Project for Latin-America which should continue the steps started by the document titled - Origin and Horizon of our Mission -, as established in the 18th CPAL Assembly." Cavassa, along with Arturo Sosa s.j., led a panel about the 35th General Congregation and the Jesuit universities.

The Assembly approved the reports, balances and financial statements presented by the Executive Secretariat and decided to give public recognition to the work done by Luis Ugalde s.j. as AUSJAL President during the last ten years. Finally, the Assembly approved the Loyola Specialized Institute on Higher Education from Dominican Republic as AUSJAL's new member. This institute's presidency is run by Francisco Escolastico Hidalgo s.j. graduated in Philosophy and Humanities. He has also directed the Loyola Elementary School, the "Loyola Cooperativa" School, the "San Ignacio de Loyola" Agronomic Institute; he was also Moral professor at the "Santo Inácio" Institute in Belo Horizonte.

Who is Jose Morales Orozco s.j.?

Jose Morales Orozco s.j. joined the Society of Jesus in 1963. He majored in Literature from the "Instituto de Literatura" in Puente Grande (Jalisco), and Philosophy from the "Instituto Libre de Filosofia y Ciencias." He majored on Theology from the "Colegio Maximo de Cristo Rey" in 1975 (Mexico City). In the same year, he was also ordained as priest and appointed as Academic President of the "Instituto Libre de Literatura" (Puente Grande, Jalisco).

He finished the Jesuit basic formation in Québec, Canada (1979); and, he was admitted in 1982 at the "Pontificia Universidad de Comillas" (Madrid) where he graduated as PhD on Theology.

He was Jesuit Provincial in Mexico from 1989 to 1995 and he was also chair of the "Conferencia de Religiosos y Religiosas de Mexico" (CIRM) and the Provincials' Conference of the Northern Latin-America. Later on, he was

appointed General Counselor in charge of the Jesuits formation and promotion of vocations by Peter Hans Kolvenbach s.j. Superior General of the Society of Jesus.



He was appointed as President of the "Universidad Iberoamericana" of Mexico City during the 2004-2008 period. The UIAC General Assembly of Associates ratified his presidency for a two-year extension. Besides Spanish, he speaks Greek, Latin, English, French, and Italian.

Peers on Education and Youth Culture in Bogota

The Network of Peers on Education met at the "Pontificia Universidad Javeriana de Bogota" during June 23 and 24. Representatives from "Universidad Javeriana" (Bogota and Cali), "Universidad Alberto Hurtado", PUCE, UCA (El Salvador), "Universidad Rafael Landivar", UIA from Mexico City and Leon, UCA-Managua, "Universidad Ruiz Montoya", ISEHF, "Universidad Catolica del Uruguay", UCAB, IUJO, and UCAT, all AUSJAL universities, and "Universidad Loyola" from Bolivia, attended the meeting. Professor Rafael Estrada presented the 2007-2009 report. Professor Esteban Ocampo presented the document titled "The Ignacian Identity and Pedagogy on the curricular proposal of the Schools of Education in AUSJAL Universities: Between the challenge and the possibility". The representatives from UCA of El Salvador, IUJO, and "Universidad Rafael Landivar" presented experiences on the introduction of the Ignacian identity and pedagogy.

A project to include the Ignacian Identity and Pedagogy in the Schools of Education in AUSJAL Universities was approved during the meeting. This project is coordinated by professor Lorenza Villa Lever and Professor Esteban Ocampo. Professor Villa Lever from UIA-Mexico City was appointed as the Network's coordinator.

Additionally, they agreed to prepare a project to create the Latin-American Observatory on Educative Policies, as requested by FIFyA. It will be coordinated by UCA-El Salvador. The universities "Rafael Landivar", PUJ-Bogota, UCAT, "Alberto Hurtado", UIA-Mexico City, and PUCE expressed their interest on the project.

The Technical Seminar for the AUSJAL Project "Youth Culture Watch" began right after the closure of the Network's meeting. This project is an initiative carried out by the Network of Peers on Education and coordinated by Professor Silvana Campagnaro from UCAB. Twelve AUSJAL universities are part of the project. The seminar was held during June 24 and 25. Representatives from these 12 universities participated in the event as well as "Universidad Loyola" of Bolivia, who attended the meeting as a guest university.

The seminar included a brief updating on the work that has been done. Also, the participants received the database from the study. After debating, they reached an agreement on the procedure for the data analysis and the index that will be used on the correspondent reports by each university. They also agreed to have three audio-conferences in July, September, and October, and to turn in the Study's report from each university by October 30, 2009.