



Quarterly Newsletter n°25, March 2017

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## Newsletter

This issue is especially dedicated to Mali, after a mission conducted by Xavier Alphaize, Vice President of USF-AWB. It helped take stock on the academic situation and its prospects with the Malian Ministry of higher education, and discuss the modalities of cooperation with public and private universities. In this newsletter, more details are given in the areas of architecture, urban planning, social sciences and extractive industries.

USF-AWB is also looking for IT professionals, for Cameroon, as well as, through our Canadian colleagues (AWB-USF/Canada), in Ghana and Kenya. ■

Prof. Robert Laurini, president of USF - AWB

### Support solicited by the Malian Ministry of higher education and scientific research

A meeting was held February 2 at Bamako with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research with Xavier Alphaize, Vice President of Academics Without Borders (USF-AWB)<sup>1</sup>. Pr Abdoulaye Cissé Salim, Director General of higher education and scientific research has painted a picture of the academic situation in Mali.



Malian universities face significant challenges related to deficiencies in human resources, in development research, documentary means. The numbers of students, always growing, are on average six to seven times higher than the

capacity of the universities. A "strategic plan for higher education and research" is being finalized to the Department, and should identify the priorities and means absolutely essential to better handle this situation.

The Director General expressed the hope that "Academics" Without borders (USF-AWB) can contribute to the capacity-building training and Malian academic research by organizing support missions in the country. It was agreed that consultations will be held by the Ministry to various national universities in order to identify the priorities and communicate them to USF. ■

### The School of Engineering, Architecture and Urban Planning in Bamako (Mali) seeks an architect or an engineer in earth construction

The School was created in 2006. As a private higher education institution, it is addressed to students of the subregion. Initial training leads to Master degrees in architecture, civil engineering, development of the territory planning, and a project is underway to extend to the information technology. In parallel to this higher education, this school provides ongoing training for unemployed young Malian people in design, building, masonry... It is a complementary social activity to the teachings of architecture that helps future architects, to

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<sup>1</sup> For any contact: Pr. Robert Laurini, President of USF-AWB, 20 Rue René, F- 69100 Villeurbanne; Email: Robert.Laurini@usf-awb.org. Web site: <http://www.usf-awb.org>. Association according to French laws, established on January 2, 2010.

help young people undergoing training in the building trades.



This school seeks an architect or an engineer in earth construction. He will be based in Segou (240 km away from Bamako) to the Materials Research Center. This mission is planned for a period of one to two months, depending on availability.



The school will support accommodation, transport and will provide a vehicle. ■

### **University of social sciences and management of Bamako (USSGB): revitalization of international cooperation**

The USSGB is today facing multiple challenges: a new sector of high school diploma in economic science has been recently created in Mali, so many students apply to this university. This implies a significant increase in the numbers of students in economics and management courses. Furthermore, research must take a more prominent place for researchers, and the University wants to strengthen the potential of the labs. It also plans to meet the challenges of the evolution of the labor market by opening new branches and specialties. Thus, the case of a new master of management of extractive industries has been considered. Priorities will be defined and identified with deans of faculties, and USF-AWB will be requested to provide support in these areas.



These issues have been discussed in February, as part of the partnership agreement signed between the USSGB and USF-AWB. These consultations have taken place at the headquarters of the University with Professor Samba Diallo, President of the University, Dr. Mamadou Koumaré, new Chief of the Office of International Relations and Cooperation at the University and Xavier Alphaize, Vice President of USF-AWB. ■

### **A teaching on mineralogy in Bamako**

During the mission carried out from January 29 to February 4 at the Ahmed Baba University in Bamako, our colleague Gérard Panczer, Professor of optical spectroscopy of geomaterials, visited the premises of the analytical laboratory for the gold rocks of the National Directorate of geology and Mines and gave support on several aspects of the project for the creation of a laboratory in mineralogy.



He gave a course of gold mineralogy for Bachelor and Master students, and a conference about "gold properties, production and techniques of extraction" for gold mining professionals. He also participated in the Master thesis defense of six African students in internship in the Randgold company. ■

## Looking for teachers in computer science for Cameroon

ISATIC, the higher African institute for technologies in information and knowledge in Douala (Cameroon) looks for its Director of studies and 6 assistants/associate professors in computer science.



ISATIC will open its doors in the fall of 2017 to train engineers at both bachelor and Master levels. This private institution under Cameroonian law is looking for professors (assistant, associate and full) in computer science and/or information technologies. It will begin by a bachelor system of 50 students, and a Master, with 25 students.

The main language of instruction will be French, but some courses may be given in English.

### Profile of the Director of Studies

If you have a PhD in computer science with a strong experience in University or engineering school with a minimum of 10 years, your profile interests us; you will need to first:

- to define implement syllabi,
- to size computer equipment,
- to define practical works,
- to help recruit other full-time professors and part-time professors,
- to define the information system and related training, software
- to organize practical work rooms,
- to define schedule,
- to affect the teaching to other recruited professors,
- to organize the recruitment of students.

Then you have to prepare the following academic year with growing staff and student numbers.

Hire date: June 2017

**Profiles of 6 assistant/associate professors**

To help the Director of Studies, we are looking assistant/associate professors who a PhD in computer science, and be able to teach in the following areas: General computing, programming, computer architecture, mathematics, operation systems, databases, telecommunications, analysis and design, information systems, software engineering, Internet and web applications, location-based services, mobile applications, cloud computing, management, production management information technology for precision farming, etc.

Hire date: August 2017

### Application

All candidates must send a application letter, résumés and all supporting documents before June 1, 2017 to:

Jean Gervais Yoyomoutome, Director of the ISATIC: [moutomej@yahoo.com](mailto:moutomej@yahoo.com)  
Robert Laurini, president of USF-AWB: [Robert.Laurini@usf-awb.org](mailto:Robert.Laurini@usf-awb.org). ■

## Looking for teachers in computer science for Ghana

Our Canadian colleagues (AWB-USF/Canada) ask us to disseminate the following announcement. A project of doctoral training in computers in Ghana, in the Department of computer science and theory of information of the University of Cape Coast was initiated at the request of this University in 2010.



The first objective of the project is to bring the current teachers of the Department (holders of Masters from abroad) at PhD level. This program is also open to teachers from other universities in Ghana.

We are now looking for volunteers to intervene for 7 weeks during the summer 2017 period set between early June and late July (all fees are supported).

Teaching is in English.

This project has the support of AWB-USF/Canada and the French Embassy in Accra.

Please send a résumé, an application letter, dates of availability, and the names of two referees to Corrie Young, cyoung@AWB-USF.org, with a copy to Mrs. Dominique Sotteau, Dominique.Sotteau@okofoto.com. Deadline: April 15, 2017.

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### **Research of teachers in computer science for the Kenya**

Karatina University is a public institution in Kenya and hopes to be a main institution of higher education in Kenya by the provision of a quality education in line with the 21st century. It is a world-class University, responding to the needs of society. The institution was started in 2007 and has five schools, including the school of Agriculture and biotechnology, school of management, the school of education and Social Sciences, school of natural resources and environmental studies and the school of pure and Applied Sciences. The University currently has four campuses in the cities of Nairobi, Karatina and Chevrier, Itiati. There are approximately 6 400 students and 169 faculty members. Location: Karatina, Kenya; language: English.

It looks for two teachers. One for e-learning and one for software engineering.

Benefits: All expenses, flights, accommodation, local transport, travel and medical insurance, vaccinations and medications and other incidental expenses will be covered by KarU and AWB-USF/Canada.

Please send a résumé, a motivation letter, dates of availability, and the names of two referees to Corrie Young, cyoung@AWB-USF.org, with a copy to Mrs. Dominique Sotteau, Dominique.Sotteau@okofoto.com. Deadline May 1, 2017.