



Newsletter

Dear colleagues,

The aim of this issue is to present a large meeting with Cameroonian academics, which has allowed them to initiate numerous collaborations between them and USF. In addition, two recent experiences will be described below, one in Gabon on behalf of the National Institute of Management Sciences in Libreville, and the other concerning training in writing doctoral dissertations in eastern Algeria.

Wishing a good reading and transmission of this newsletter to anyone potentially interested.

Prof. Robert Laurini, Editor of the USF-AWB Newsletter. ■

Meeting with the universities of Cameroon

The French Embassy in Cameroon and Campus France organized a large meeting in Paris on 5 April. It brought together the USF and several French universities, as well as eight major Cameroonian universities. It was an opportunity to establish new contacts and meet future partners.



All the Cameroonian universities showed a keen interest in cooperating with USF. The partnership areas and priorities of Cameroonian universities had one constant: to contribute to increasing the employability of

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students. The priority actions also concern the support of academics competent in certain disciplines such as the Fine Arts, the revision of programs and the relationship with enterprises, the establishment of quality control, but also more classic support approaches in Management, Economics and Law. Exchanges will continue the ground in order to enter an operational phase of these cooperation axes.

For further information, please contact Professor Xavier Alphaize <xavier.alphaize@gmail.com>. ■

Report of the mission carried out from February 24 to March 10 in Libreville, Gabon, to the National Institute of Management Sciences (INSG), by Dr. André Tiran of USF

The objective of this mission was to accompany the reactivation of the INSG research team (LIAGE) to carry out a precise analysis of the supervisory needs of the research professors grouped in the laboratory and to examine precisely the possibilities of HDR² taking into account the criteria currently existing in France.

Since the team brings together about eight really involved colleagues from different disciplines, it was important to see at the beginning what the needs were in terms of producing articles in journals with reading

² HDR is a French diploma for being appointed full professor. Usually, it is defended from 7 to 10 after a PhD.

committee. An important precision to avoid misunderstandings is a multidisciplinary team, that is, with colleagues who have done their doctoral dissertations in economics, management sciences, linguistics, sociology, statistical mathematics, in computer science.



The other two objectives of my mission were to reach the creation of a journal in the National Institute of Management Sciences whose objective was to enhance the teaching staff in particular that of teachers and assistants and, finally, to create a dynamic and a proper identity outside the four management professors who in fact do not collaborate at all in the institute to the development of research, their investment is made elsewhere, i.e. abroad. The next objective was to make a post-COVID-19 book that was a previous commission of the director of INSG.

The second objective of the mission

The idea was to launch a journal of the institute that would make it possible to evaluate the work of its research professors and, in a way, to form a basis for Working Papers and, therefore, for future articles.

To this end, we have succeeded in setting up the scientific committee.

The third objective

As for the objective of the implementation of the book is a contribution on the subject after COVID-19 that could not be processed within the mission deadline.

Diagnostic

It is clear that INSG colleagues do not have sufficient expertise about the nature of the articles they must produce and of the journals to which they must address themselves, without forgetting the limitations to which they must respond. These are, of course, the things you learn little by little in France when you participate as a member in a research center with the help of professors, but in Libreville they have been left without any support and without all the necessary

exchanges with other colleagues for this development.

On the other hand, it seems that the colleagues who have supported their theses have not really exploited until the end of the thesis work and that, having traveled the different specialized sites, outside the international organizations, There is virtually nothing about Gabon's foreign trade and the problem of its food and energy security, which are obviously current issues today and very little about forest management. Colleagues here have the possibility of making articles with real added value, and new, provided that they are not limited to theoretical generalities that have no interest. Of course, we must go into the details and the field of statistical analysis, which is what is interesting and not the general theoretical developments found everywhere. With the support of colleagues specialized in mathematics, statistics and computer science, which in the current context of research is a real advantage.

For further information, please contact Professor André Tiran <andre.tiran@univ-lyon2.fr>. ■

Training of doctoral students in universities located in eastern Algeria

The Algerian universities of Annaba and Tébessa have asked USF to organize doctoral training, particularly in the scientific writing of doctoral dissertations. Due to health requirements, no on-site training could be established, but it was replaced by distance training. However, the great obstacle of this type of intervention is the almost impossibility of treating the difficulties of each of the doctoral students.



The study highlighted two different aspects on which USF will need to focus, namely training in scientific illustration and thesis formulation.

Remember that this training can be adapted to all your specific needs, in French, English and Spanish.

For further information, please contact Professor Robert Laurini <robert.laurini@usf-awb.org>. ■
