

**DECLARATION**  
**15<sup>th</sup> ACRU Annual Conference**  
**Trenčín, Slovakia, September 14, 2007**

The meeting began at 9:00 on September 14, 2007.

The welcome speech was delivered by Prof. Juraj Slabeycius, Vice-rector of the Alexander Dubcek University in Trenčin. Then Prof. Stanislaw Sagan, president of ACRU, opened the ACRU Annual Conference 2007 and stated that on the one hand, ACRU should intend to become a "lobbying" organization in relations with the European Universities Association, and on the other hand it should become an institution which not only unites but first and foremost helps to organize our Universities' potential in receiving EU grants. In order to guarantee it there should be done serious reforms of the ACRU Constitution, its organization and methods of functioning. He also proposed some changes to the Constitution, because ACRU is an Association registered in Kosice according to Slovakian law and many legal provisions limit the Association activities. There should be regarded a possibility of changing this legal form of ACRU acting. The authorities and the way of administrating the ACRU should be urgently reformed.

After introduction of all members present at the meeting, it was concluded that 7 ACRU member universities were present, and there are two justified absences (Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad and University of Alba Iulia). The General Council was deemed to be constituted, since according to Article 10, paragraph 6 of the Constitution, justified absences are not taken into account for deciding the quorum.

The Secretary General, Prof. Ioan Horga, informed the participants about activities and projects carried out since 15<sup>th</sup> ACRU Annual Conference. He presented also a financial report since the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in 2007.

The representatives of the ACRU member universities, who took part in the 15<sup>th</sup> ACRU Annual Conference, accepted the Activity and Financial report as presented by the Secretary General. Members present put forward also some ideas for future ACRU activities, proposals concerning the reformation of ACRU structure and way of functioning other possibilities of cooperation:

- a) LLP Erasmus (IP, Thematic Networks, Virtual Campus, Erasmus placements), Leonardo da Vinci;
- b) Jean Monnet (Projects for modules in Novi Sad, Trenčin, TU Kosice, Ivano-Frankivsk, Establishing an ACRU European Studies Group – ACRU-ESnet) to bring together all Jean Monnet structures on European Studies in the Carpathian Euroregion);

- c) Participation of ACRU to academic exhibitions: Europe (Best in Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest, Bucharest, Warsaw), Asia: association to the Asialink European project;
- d) Creating a package of 5 grants (ACRU Research Fellowship) of 1800 EURO/student/6 months: 1100 Euro granted by ACRU and the host university will be exempt from the 700 euro annual fee if they provide accommodation and board to the student for the 6 months;
- e) Two permanent vice-presidents appointing, whose tasks would be to supervise of ACRU activities. One of them would be responsible for projects and grants and the other for finances of the Association. Together with the President, they would create an Executive Committee of ACRU, which would have a possibility to administer Association finances.
- f) Appointing a permanent bureau of ACRU employing 2 or 3 people whose tasks would be monitoring possibilities of our Universities' participation in EU grants, having permanent contacts with EU institutions and presenting the scientific potential of our Universities, as well as constant informing, coordinating and helping in getting grants by the Universities associated in ACRU.
- g) Reducing membership fees and calculating them for the bureau constant expenses. All other additional expenses should be decided during Rectors' meetings every time. Recommendations have been made to start a discussion on this subject in internet;
- h) Implementing e-voting as an alternative system of voting, should the members not be able to attend the meetings, which means that projects of decisions prepared in advance will be sent to the members in electronic way and each member will give their vote for or against by e-mail;
- i) Before the end of November this year to collect the opinions and proposals as to the changes in ACRU constitution to be sent to the following e-mail addresses: [prorzagr@univ.rzeszow.pl](mailto:prorzagr@univ.rzeszow.pl), [lkustra@univ.rzeszow.pl](mailto:lkustra@univ.rzeszow.pl), [ihorga@uoradea.ro](mailto:ihorga@uoradea.ro), [erna.beres@tuke.sk](mailto:erna.beres@tuke.sk), [cburan@uoradea.ro](mailto:cburan@uoradea.ro);
- j) The following meeting should take place in May or June 2008.

The members were asked to use the ACRU web page for exchange of information about activities, workshops, and projects organized by their universities.

The applicants made an introduction of their institutions: Petro Mohyla Mykolayiv State University, Bukovinian State Medical University, Vasile Goldis Western University of Arad, East Ukrainian National University, Berdyansk University of Management and Business as well as Berdyansk State Pedagogical University.

The participants expressed their appreciation to Prof. Juraj Wagner, the Rector of the Alexander Dubcek University of Trencin, and Prof. Juraj Slabeycius, the Vice-

rector of the Alexander Dubcek University, as well as to their colleagues for organization of the ACRU Annual Conference 2007.

Two universities offered to host the Annual Conference 2008: the Bukovinian State Medical University and the East Ukrainian National University named after Volodymyr Dal. Prof. Stanislaw Sagan, President of the ACRU, will decide upon the institution to host the next meeting. The exact date will be announced before the end of January 2008 at the latest.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm on September 14, 2007.

Trencin, September 14, 2007

Prof. Stanisław Sagan  
President of ACRU