

DECLARATION
18th ACRU Annual Conference
Yalta, Ukraine
9 June, 2011

The 18th ACRU Annual Conference took place on June 9th 2011, at Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University, Ukraine. The main topic of the meeting was "Expansion of Priorities in the ACRU Connections with Universities and Organizations of Various Countries".

The conference began at 10:00 on 9th June, 2011.

The welcome speech was delivered by Professor Nikolay Ignatenko, Acting Vice-Rector of the Crimean University of Humanities, and presented the Crimean university.

Then Prof. Dr. Paul-Şerban Agachi, President of the ACRU, opened the Annual Conference and stated that ACRU has already 17 years, and now it has 23 member universities.

The first presentation was held by Prof. Dr. Paul-Şerban Agachi, who presented his report as President of the Association, from the period May 2009 to June 2011. In his report he pointed out that during his mandate he had to concentrate on administrative problems for ACRU which had almost been dissolved. It has been accomplished that ACRU seat has been changed to University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Kosice. This brought also changes in the administration of the Association, a new Secretary General was elected, new assistants have been named. The President draw the attention of those present, that Vice-President from the Ukrainian part has not been very active and has to be replased by somebody else. A still consisting problem within ACRU is the lack of communication, and the problem with membership fee payments.

The next to speak was Secetary General Professor Jana Mojzisova. She presented the Financial Report of ACRU.

The first part of the report, from January 2009 to December 2010, was made by Ing. Erna Beres from the Technical University in Kosice, and the second part of the report was made by the present Secretary General, from January to May 2011, from the date when the ownership of the bank account was taken over from the Technical University of Košice. It was stated again that the main problem is with the membership fee payments. Some member universities have never paid the fee, some have paid only a few times and others have regularly paid. President Agachi commented that it must be figured out ways on how to get more funds to ACRU and how to distribute these funds. He pointed out that a Grant Scheme has been done and this could be a way of spending ACRU funds. At the 17th ACRU Annual Conference, Vice-President Oleksandr Ivashchuk was named to create a bank account for the Ukrainian universities to pay the membership fee, but it did not happen, at the present meeting it was decided that representative of the Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University will take over this task. The deadline for solving this problem is September 2011. The President took the responsibility to open discussions with the Romanian member universities on the issue of membership fee. All those present approved the Financial Report.

Next the Secretary general presented the ACRU Grant Scheme that was prepared by administrative office in Kosice as it follows:

The Grant Scheme of the Association is designed to stimulate and promote student mobility (BA, MA and PhD level) as well as teaching and administrative staff mobility within the network of ACRU's member universities.

The ACRU Grant Scheme is aimed at applicants from ACRU member institutions looking for financial resources towards the costs of mobility within the ACRU network.

Types of activities supported by the Grant were the following: Study visits/stays, summer schools, workshops, courses, small grant for supporting the research inside ACRU.

Two administrative forms have been elaborated: Grant application form and Letter of Acceptance from the host institution.

The Mobility period was decided to be between 1 week and 3 months. The amounts established were 100 Eur/week and 400 Eur/month.

Process of submission of applications and evaluation criteria:

- ▶ Applicants must first present their project idea to the ACRU Representative at their home university.
- ▶ Member universities will make the selections among their applicants.
- ▶ The nominees then need the approval of the Executive Committee of ACRU who will review their applications.
- ▶ Grant applications must be submitted as a hard copy on a prescribed form which is available on ACRU's website and sent to ACRU's office in Kosice, Slovakia together with accompanying documents.

The evaluation criteria against which applicants will be judged are:

- ▶ Meeting the eligibility criteria
- ▶ Relevance of the project
- ▶ Applicants will be informed whether their application has been approved via e-mail within 30 days of the reception of the application

Eligible costs include: travel costs, accommodation, board library fees, books and supplies, consumables. Two more were added during the session: travel expences and registration fees for PHD conference which were limited to 150 Eur without depending on the period of stay.

Successful applicants (beneficiaries) will be awarded a grant in full amount before their mobility starts by means of signing a formal grant agreement

between the beneficiary and the Association represented by the Secretary General.

- ▶ Successful applicants (beneficiaries) will be required to provide information about the work carried out at the host university in the form of a final report (financial and scientific). It was added that the Final Report has to be signed by the ACRU representative of the home university. If successful applicants will not provide the Final Report the home University should step in, and if not, it will not be granted anymore.
- ▶ They will submit the report within two weeks after the mobility period has ended.
- ▶ They will also be required to submit a letter of confirmation from the host university certifying completion of the mobility period and specifying its duration.
- ▶ The above documents will be sent to ACRU's office in Kosice.
- ▶ Information about the Grant Scheme will be posted on the website and printed copies will be sent to member universities.

A common email address will to be made: ACRU grants, for applicants to turn to and it will be managed by the two assistants (the presidents and the Secretary Generals). Everybody voted in favour of this fund was also interesting from ACRU's point of view, as an organisation for it finances NGOs. Professor Lis proposed that ACRU should have a moving PHD school, that will move from one country to the other, within ACRU. The association could support travel expenses and the Fund the rest of the costs. The representatives of Miskolc University have offered to host the first of these PHD schools.

The agenda of the Conference has been changed for some representatives had to leave. The changes in the constitution were next on the table.

Professor Jana Mojzisova made the propositions as follows:

In ARTICLE 8 regarding membership universities that do not pay for three years membership fee have no rights to vote and to receive grants.

In ARTICLE 11 regarding the Executive Committee by sub point 3 it was added: ... " strategy, policies and operational" programs for future activities.

In ARTICLE 12 regarding to the President and the Vice-Presidents, two more sub-points were added as follows: " To propose the strategy and policies of the Association to the Executive Committee" and " To convene ordinary or special meetings of the Executive Committee".

In ARTICLE 13 regarding the Secretary General points 4 "The Secretary General must submit, in the name of the Executive Committee, (an annual budget and annual detailed finances report to the General Council " and 5 " The Secretary General has the right of signature in the bank for all financial issues in the name of the Executive Committee" were added.

In ARTICLE 19 regarding meetings, the whole article was changed including the title as follows: Title: minutes and declaration of the meetings and the body of the article to: After each Executive Committee meeting a minute will be issued and it will not be made public and after every Annual Conference a declaration will be issued and will be posted on the website.

In ARTICLE 20, regarding funding the title has been changed to:.... "and expenditure" and a sub point was added, 4 as follows: The eligible expenditure are the following

1. Grants according to the Grant Scheme
2. Support for research projects inside ACRU universities according to the Grant Scheme
3. EC members travel costs for representing ACRU in international events of general interest for ACRU
4. Costs of administration of the ACRU secretariat (assistants of the President and Secretary General stipendia, website, etc.).

All those present have voted in favor of the changes made in the constitution.

The following point in the agenda was the debate of the elections. A new Vice-president, representing the Ukraine was elected in the person of Rector Klymenko and as representative for Poland Professor Jerzy Lis. The Vice-president and the new representative for Poland were elected because the formal persons were not active.

All those present have voted in favor, unanimously.

Regarding the election of the president all agreed with the reelection of the formal president for his mandate could not be done properly because of the change of ACRU seat, and the administrative arrangements that followed. The President presented his future view on the Association and then the voting took place. Everybody voted in favor, unanimously.

After the voting several presentations were made concerning new trend in higher education.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:30 on 9 June, 2011.

Yalta, 9 June, 2011

Prof. univ. dr. Paul-Șerban Agachi

ACRU President



18th ACRU Annual Conference

Yalta, Ukraine, June 9, 2011

Present ACRU universities and their representatives:

1. University of Miskolc - Prof. dr. Dobroka Mihaly, Vice-Rector for Scientific Affairs and International Relations, Vice-President of ACRU
2. University of Miskolc - Dr. Peter Bikfalvi, Head of the Department of Research Management and International Relations
3. Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca – Prof. univ. dr. Paul-Şerban Agachi - President of the Academic Council, President of ACRU
4. University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice - Emíl Pilipčinec Prof. MVDr., PhD., Rector
5. University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice - Mojžišová Jana Prof. MVDr. ,PhD. , Vice-Rector
6. University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice - Dr. Silvia Rolfova /
7. University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice - Ludmila Kundrikova, Chancelor
8. AGH University of Science and Technology - Prof. dr hab. Jerzy Lis, Vice - Rector for Cooperation and Development
9. AGH University of Science and Technology - Prof. dr. Antoni Tajdus, Rector
10. Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University – Prof. Mykhaylo Bahmet, Vice-Rector on Development
11. Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University - Yuliana Palagnyuk

12. Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University - Lyudmila Lyapina
13. Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University - Prof. Leonid Klymenko, Rector
14. Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University - Tatiana Bochkarova
15. Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University - Nataliya Bekova
16. Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University - Anatoliy Dudar
17. Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University - Tatyana Belaya
18. Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University - Anatoliy Osipov
19. Crimean University of Humanities - Ignatenko Nikolay, Vice-Rector
20. Crimean University of Humanities - Ponomaryeva Helen, Vice Rector
21. Crimean University of Humanities - Chueva Olga, International Branch
22. Karol Adamiecki University of Economics in Katowice – Prof. Krzysztof
23. Marcinek, Vice-Rector for Research
24. Karol Adamiecki University of Economics in Katowice – Prof. Robert Tomanek

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