

CALL FOR PAPERS

First REGIONAL COLLOQUIUM OF NPUA IN KINSHASA

from the 14th to the 16th of February 2012

Deadline for the papers: November, 30th 2011

Theme:

The role of the university towards the challenges of development in Africa: case study of Protestant Universities

I- General Presentation of the Scientific colloquium

The university generally has three important missions: teaching, research and services to the community (outreach programmes). In Africa, 50 years after independence, the accomplishment of the missions of the university seems to be mitigated (Innocent Butare and Jathryn Toure, 2008). We do not only notice the deterioration of training and teaching conditions but also the inadaptation and inadequacy of these teachings or of research to realities as far as the socio-economic and political problems of African societies are concerned.

Several analyses actually show that African universities have reached the end of their initial development. The mandate they received at their creation after independence, today requires a re-evaluation with regards to the changes operating on the continental and world level. In fact, the international context is characterized by the globalization of markets and an economic world which is more and more competitive and interdependent. This then confers to knowledge a high strategic role. (Makosso, 2006)

II- Objectives of the colloquium

Within the framework of the initiative of the putting in place a network of the Protestant Universities of Africa, a meeting took place in Yaounde in Cameroon in July 2011 and the NPUA was created. This colloquium is therefore interested in the role of the university in Africa towards the challenges of

development. Our main focus will be to identify the problems recurring in African universities and to bring up appropriate solution in order to make them more useful to find ideal solutions to the problems of African societies in full mutation and to render them competitive in international rankings.

III- Themes and sub-themes

Researchers, heads of universities and research institutes in Africa, practitioners are invited to submit their communications on the subjects related to the general theme of the colloquium.

Without being exhaustive, the following sub-themes are concerned

- University studies in Africa and the challenges of development
- University research in Africa and the challenges of development
- Services to the community and the challenges of development
- Technology and innovation in universities in Africa and the challenges of development

IV-Format and Structure of the Programme

There is three types of submissions for proposals of communication to the colloquium

1. Competitive papers: they represent an original research work completed by the authors
2. Proposition of special thematic sessions: it refers to a group of researchers of different universities who propose a special sub-theme which could be developed in a special session of the colloquium.
3. Scripts which present the results of research carried out in a university or a non-governmental organization in Africa in a particular field (theology, agronomy, economy, social sciences and international relations, technologies, medicine etc.). The authors of the scripts could be available for discussion so as to answer questions during special sessions dedicated to scripts. The objective of this session is to promote research carried out in universities or African institutions and favour synergies between various researchers.

V- Important dates

- Launching the call for communications : 15th October 2011
- Deadline for submission of proposition of workshops, communication abstracts (750-1000 words) and scripts 30th November 2011
- Opinion of the committee for the acceptance of communication proposals :20 November 2011
- Reception of final communications : 10th January 2012

VI-Registration at the colloquium

It is compulsory for all participants to register for the colloquium in order to participate. Participation fee is fixed as follow:

- Registration fee before the 20th December 2011 : 175USD per participant and 195 USD after the 20th of December 2011

- Registration fee for a group of participants of the same organization (150 USD/participant right up till the 20th December 2011 about 175USD). Researchers of several university fields are invited to propose communications for this colloquium
- Registration fee for full-time students as from 75 USD

Note should be taken of the fact that all participants have to register for the colloquium and equally pay the registration fee except for invited personalities such as panelist during the colloquium.

Due to the budgetary constraints of RUPA, we are unable to reimburse or sponsor all charges relating to lodging facilities and all other expenses.

In case of any annulment, the participant could be reimbursed by the 20th of December 75% of the amount. After this date, no reimbursement of annulment charges could be possible.

Participation fees entitle you to:

- A CD-ROM of the conference
- The conference kit including the programme of the conference
- 6 tickets for the coffee break
- 3 tickets for the afternoon meal during the conference
- 1 ticket for the gala night
- An attestation of participation of the colloquium accorded by RUPA

VII- Instructions or modalities for authors

All communications, thematic sessions or scripts have to be sent through email to the following addresses: colloquerupa2011@gmail.com or ctagou@upac-edu.org or bakengela@hotmail.com

All submissions to the RUPA colloquium have to contain the following information:

- 1- Type of submission: competitive paper, thematic session or script
- 2- Title of communication
- 3- Contact details of the author: name, institutional affiliation, email address, telephone number
- 4- Names of co-authors/participants
- 5- Keywords: all authors are called upon to provide the key words representing the object of their communication
- 6- Abstracts: 750-1000 words for a competitive paper; 500 words for a thematic session and 200-300 words for a script.

VIII- Venue of the Colloquium

The colloquium will take place at the Protestant University in Congo, Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The choice of Kinshasa as venue for this colloquium is based on the fact

that the organizers wanted to offer to the participants the opportunity to reflect within the framework portraying the university realities.

The participants of this colloquium can reserve their hotel rooms at the following addresses:

<http://www.afrique.free.fr/congo-rdc/fr/hotels.php> or <http://www.tripadvisor.fr/hotels-9294187-kinshasa-hotels.html>

1. Hotel Invest (7minutes walk from the Protestant University in Congo)
2. Residence Marika
3. Auberge le Marinel tel : 0898914854, 0818116989, 0815134703 email: lemarinel2002@yahoo.fr

For any additional information, please contact colloquerupa2011@gmail.com

IX- COORDINATION TEAM

Prof. Celestin Tagou (RUPA Executive Secretary)

Prof. Patrick Bakengela (President of the local board of organization / UPC)

Christian teacher Mabi, Member of the Committee

Ms. Marie-José Mavinga, Member of the Committee

Kalombo Prof. Sebastian, Member of the Committee

Prof. Kola, Member of the Committee

CT Kongo, Member of the Committee