



ACCC Annual Conference with UNESCO- UNEVOC

ACCC'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SHYAMAL MAJUMDAR

On June 1st, 2nd and 3rd, Dr. Majumdar took part in the Association of Canadian Community Colleges' (ACCC) Annual Conference. ACCC is also the Pan-Canadian UNEVOC Centre. Dr. Majumdar made a speech in front of 600 Canadian leaders and 45 technical and vocational training international delegates from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Paraguay, Senegal, Nigeria, Bangladesh and India. The presentation will be available at <http://www.accc.ca>.

Dr. Majumdar met with representatives from several countries and UNESCO-UNEVOC's Network wishes to increase those countries' involvement in the network. The three days kept Dr. Majumdar quite busy on top of allowing him to considerably strengthen the Americas Network.

He also met with James McKenney, Senior Advisor to the American Association of Community Colleges' (AACC) CEO and representative of the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics (WFCP). The meeting's goal was to increase Americans' involvement in this international network. Just like ACCC in Canada, AACC has a national mandate regarding technical and vocational training.

Dr. Majumdar then met with Peru's ministries of education and employment

delegates lead by Fernando Bolanos Galdos, head of mission and Deputy Minister of Institutional Management for Peru's Ministry of Education.

At the end of that meeting, it was obvious that Peru wanted to get actively involved in UNESCO-UNEVOC's Network. Technical and vocational training is a priority for Peru's government. One of Peru's representatives might take part in the South America Cluster's regional meeting which will be taking place next August in Costa Rica.

Above photo: From left to right: Ana Carolina Oliveira Batista, International Activities Coordinator; Marie-Josée Fortin, Director of International Partnerships Programs at ACCC and responsible for the UNEVOC Pan-Canadian Centre; Professor Danio Rebello Arantes, Rector of Instituto Federal Espirito Santo; Dr. Majumdar, UNEVOC Officer in Charge; Professor Claudia Schideck Soares, Rector of Instituto Federal Rio Grande do Sul; Paul Brennan, Vice-President of International Partnerships, ACCC; Professor Lia Pachalski, International Coordinator of Instituto Federal Rio Grande do Sul and FORINTER representative

Not shown in the picture: José Ricardo Martin, Rector of Instituto Federal Norte de Minas Gerais



From left to right: Isabel Flores, Director General of Higher Education and Technical and Vocational Training, Ministry of Education of Peru; Billie del Pino, Department of Higher Education and Technical and Vocational Training, Ministry of Labour and Promotion of Employment of Peru; Dr. Majumdar, UNEVOC Officer in Charge; Fernando Bolaños Galdos, Deputy Minister of Institutional Management, Peru Ministry of Education

Not shown in the picture: Ministry of Labour and Promotion of Employment represented by Roger Honores, Deputy Director of Technical and Vocational Training; Ministry of Education represented by Pilar Saavedra, Director of Higher Education and Technical and Productive Training; and Sylvain Goudreau, Senior Technical Advisor





From left to right: Robert Gregory, Education Specialist and co-author of the regional strategy on technical and vocational training; Howard Isaacs, Acting President of the Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica; Brenda Cooke, Senior Technical Advisor for ACCC in Jamaica; Dr. Majumdar, UNEVOC Officer in Charge; Marie-Josée Fortin, Director of International Partnerships Programs, ACCC and responsible for the UNEVOC Pan-Canadian Centre; Patricia McPherson, Education Programs Manager for CARICOM



From left to right: Nicole Rouillier, Cégep Marie-Victorin's Director General; Dr Majumdar, UNEVOC Officer in Charge; Ann Buller, President of Centennial College, a UNEVOC Centre; and Marie-Josée Fortin, Director of International Partnerships Programs at ACCC and responsible for the UNEVOC Pan-Canadian Centre

ACCC Annual Conference

Penticton, British Columbia, CANADA

June 1-3, 2013

Shyamal Majumdar,
UNEVOC-UNESCO

Another meeting took place with Caribbean representatives. UNESCO is already operating in this part of the world in terms of technical and vocational training. The meeting's goal was to increase Caribbean's involvement and most of all consolidate actions taken. Patricia McPherson, Assistant Deputy Minister and Education Programs Manager for CARICOM, Robert Gregory, Education Specialist and co-author of the regional strategy on technical and vocational training and Howard Isaacs, Acting President of the Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica all listened and took good note of Dr. Majumdar's recommendations. The opportunities for working together are better than ever and provide a better global inclusion of CARICOM's islands. CARICOM represents all the member islands' and member countries' ministries of education.

Another important meeting Dr. Majumdar took part in was with representatives from the Conselho Nacional das Instituições da Rede Federal de Educação Profissional, Científica e Tecnológica (National Council of the Professional, Scientific and Technological Education Federal Network's Institutes, CONIF) which represents all 42 Institutos Federais (Federal Institutes) under Brazil's Ministry of Education who contributes to the implementation of new campuses every year to reach 422 campuses all over the Brazilian territory.

During that meeting, CONIF committed to getting more involved and ensuring that the Federal Institutes that were already UNEVEC Centres become more active. As such is the case in Canada, CONIF wishes to have a more inclusive role and represent its entire network within UNESCO-UNEVOC.

Dr. Majumdar's last meeting was with Ann Buller, President of Centennial College, a UNEVOC Centre. Mrs. Buller is also the Chair of ACCC's Board. She was accompanied by Nicole Rouillier, Cégep Marie-Victorin's Director General. Cégep Marie-Victorin is the only college to have a UNESCO chair. This chair looks into education in jail. Unfortunately, Cégep de la Gaspésie et des Îles' UNEVOC Centre Director General could not make it to the meeting.

During the meeting, the participants discussed how UNEVOC Centres and Canada in general could support UNEVOC's Network and contribute to it by bringing new ideas.

As Vice-President of the Sectoral Commission on Education at the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, Marie-Josée Fortin took the opportunity to encourage all the participants in the meetings to contact their national commission and let them know they took part in those meetings. ACCC is very proud of its relationship with the Canadian Commission for UNESCO.

