



Message from the Chairman

Newsletter n° 13

From 3/09/2014

The academic year has begun!

With the start of the new academic year it is time to take stock of the activities of our association and to look to the future. The year 2013 – 2014 has been an eventful one for GEM&L and we have taken some important steps forward.

The Toulouse conference was an opportunity for us to strengthen our national and international ties. We subsequently gained the recognition of the FNEGE, the most important federation of management professors in France whose scientific committee GEM&L will soon be joining. We received the support of the Vice-President for Education of the Paris - Ile de France Chamber of Commerce who came to Toulouse in order to show his interest in GEM&L's work on the link between languages and management.

The conference also enabled us to make GEM&L better known internationally and provided an opportunity for scholars from French management schools and universities to meet and plan future cooperation with scholars from other countries such as Africa. The pre-conference workshop and the keynote speaker showed the extent to which some of the most eminent international scholars in the field support GEM&L activities and allowed us to strengthen our relations with them. The EFMD was yet again present in Toulouse, in the person of its Director General, and three members of the GEM&L executive board gave a paper at the EFMD research seminar at Stockholm University Business School in May. This in turn was an opportunity for us to inform business school deans, from Europe and beyond, about the activities of our association and their response was most encouraging.

Many improvements have been made to our website which is now bilingual and provides information about the GEM&L and all the events we organize. Thanks to the archives, the abstracts of papers presented in our conferences can also be consulted.

And finally, GEM&L members were present at research workshops, thesis defences and conferences, such as the Organization Studies Workshop, which took place in May in Corfu, the FNEGE Management Week, a PhD examining board (in Portuguese!), and the AIMS conference (Association Internationale de Management Stratégique) where a member of our board received the best paper award.

As for the future, much remains to be done if we wish to meet our ambitious objectives. More improvements to our website are planned with a space for members and an interactive dimension for the GEM&L community. The GEM&L website is your website! Contribute to it! Subscribe to our newsletter!

Although we have made great progress on the research front, we must focus our efforts on the two other dimensions of the GEM&L, namely teaching and the dialogue with the business world. In March 2015 a one-day seminar on the theme of best practices and innovations in teaching and learning will be held at ESSEC. After the success of our 2013 petit-déjeuner GEM&L Entreprises, another breakfast event with company representatives will be organized in the coming months. All these projects require energy, time and perseverance.

I would like to end this message by thanking all the members of the GEM&L and particularly the GEM&L board members for the part they have played and continue to play in making all these achievements possible.

Best wishes for the new academic year!

Dr. Philippe Lecomte

GEM&L president

