

NETWORK INFORMATION LETTER N ° 5 December 2017

Dear friends, colleagues and partners of the PGV network

The year 2017 ends sadly with the death of Zofia Mikolajczyk, professor at the University of Lodz, co-founder of the PGV Network. His contribution to the work of the Network has been fundamental. The expressions of sympathy received in Grenoble testify to our admiration for this brilliant Polish university colleague, that family and professional responsibilities, age and health concerns have never prevented from participating with dedication and authority in the tasks which are those of a senior member of the PGV Network. With her passing, we are losing a friend who has made a remarkable contribution to the life of our scientific community. We offer our family and loved ones our most sincere condolences.

The year 2017 was marked by the 23rd conference of the PGV Network. Meeting from 14 to 16 September 2017, in Casablanca, it was the first event of the network on African soil. 46 participants representing 31 universities presented their work on the question of European borders. The articles and debates emphasized the risk of seeing the European society threatened by populist rhetoric against the backdrop of walls. They also showed that EU strategies were accompanied by imbalances in the member states. European companies are moving towards new models that challenge the influence of institutions, move in the direction of internationalization and adaptation to new social, cultural or technological contexts. Finally, BREXIT has political, economic and social consequences for Great Britain and its European partners. The European project is under threat.

The General Assembly of the Network, which met on September 15, 2017 at the conference venue, registered an election to the Board of Directors and the accession of new members. It ratified the activity report and the financial report, took note of the editorial policy and approved the project of a 24th Conference in Krakow in 2018 on the theme of The University of the Future in the wider European area. It will be preceded by a Board of Directors in Katowice from 17 to 19 May 2018.

In 2017, the journal Management & Governance published a thematic issue of Local Productive Systems. Benchmarking in the countries of the Union and East of the Union (N ° 17) and a post-conference number bringing together the best papers presented in Casablanca (N ° 18).

As you probably know, the term of emeritus professor conferred on me by the Pierre Mendès France University in 2008 ended on August 31, 2017. The end of the emeritus questions the management of the team GREG and the Presidency of the Network. Ewa Martin was chosen to succeed me as executive director of GREG.r. The presidency of the network will be renewed at the next Board meeting.

Dear friends and colleagues,

I wish you all, as individuals and as a family, an excellent Christmas, a happy new year 2018. My wishes are addressed to the Board of Directors, the entire network and all our partners.

Grenoble on December 22, 2017

Claude Martin