

ICSB Argentine Affiliate Report

January 18th 2015

President Name: Juan Federico

Current Number of members: 67

Affiliate Conference Schedule and location for 2015: XX Annual Meeting of Red Pymes Mercosur at UPSO - Bahía Blanca, Argentina from 23th to 25th September 2015.

Board Composition:

Enter Title	Enter Name	Enter Email Address
President	FEDERICO, Juan	jfederic@ungs.edu.ar juan.s.federico@gmail.com
Vice President Publications and Research	BORELLO, José	jborello@ungs.edu.ar
Vice President Membership and Development	ANDRES, María Fernanda	andres.maria.fer@gmail.com
Vice President Programs	BEZCHINSKY, Gabriel	Gabriel@bezchinsky.com
Vice President Marketing	D'ANNUNZIO, Claudia	dannunzio@econ.unicen.edu.ar
Vice President Financial	ASCÚA, Rubén	ruben.ascua@aymrafaela.com.ar

Date of your upcoming board elections: January 2016

Discuss highlights/new developments:

- Red Pymes Mercosur, host of the ICSB Argentina Affiliate, is having its 20th Anniversary! So, we are thinking a number of events and activities before and after our Annual Meeting to celebrate this.
- Like every year since 2010, we will organize in cooperation with PRODEM (Universidad Nacional de General Sarmiento) and MIF-IDB the 5th Workshop-Seminar for Professionals of the Entrepreneurial Ecosystems in Latin America. In 2015 the host country will be Chile, in partnership with the Universidad de la Frontera and Guilliver. We expect more 100 professionals

from virtually all Latin American countries to participate in this event which nowadays constitutes a meeting point for all those interested in entrepreneurship ecosystems in the region.

- c) Our peer-reviewed electronic Journal *Pymes, Innovación y Desarrollo* [SMEs, Innovation and Development] continues with some special issues last year; the last about the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem in Argentina. For 2015 we are preparing a new special issue about ICT and software industries in Argentina as well.
- d) We started to discuss within the Affiliate Board and with possible sponsors the possibility of nominating Argentina to host ICSB Global Conference in 2017.
- e) We get some more affiliates from Chile and Uruguay, making ICSB Argentina a hub of ICSB in the South cone of the region. Sooner we will get 75 affiliates.

Discuss key problems/challenges faced:

- a) In parallel to our efforts to attract new members from other Latin American countries, we also need to enlarge the number of local members of ICSB Argentina. We need to improve the attractiveness of ICSB Argentina activities within our current members and to develop new initiatives to attract more people to join the Affiliate. This calls for new marketing actions.
- b) Despite all our efforts and support to our Brazilian colleagues, they were unable to commit new affiliates and last year they decide to downsize the Brazilian Affiliate to a chapter.
- c) We are still having some troubles to get US dollars and sent them abroad through the banking system or other international couriers, due to the political decisions made some years ago. Nevertheless, we are making important efforts to find ways to pay the annual fees.

Discuss any issues that require the Boards action:

- a) To invite members of the ICSB Board to join the Red Pyme XX Annual Conference in Bahía Blanca as keynote speakers.
- b) To continue working, once approved by the Board, on the constitution of a regional ICSB office for Latin America based on the Argentinean Affiliate.
- c) To continue thinking on new activities and synergies with ICSB IO to increase the attractiveness of ICSB Argentina to its members and to new audiences (young researchers, practitioners and entrepreneurs).