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Editorial

This big issue for Universities in 2023 is how to handle Artificial intelligence (AI). St Clements has always argued that the big difference between someone with a 3 year diploma and someone with a Bachelor degree in the same knowledge discipline was that Bachelor graduates should be able to write and research a Thesis. Visiting libraries and finding the existing material in a knowledge area is a very important learning skill for Bachelor, Master and Doctorate candidates.

Pre the invention of the typewriter one of the key skills of all University graduates was their ability to competently hand write multi page documents. No one in the 21st Century would consider being a competent hand writer was an essential skill all University graduates have. Pre the internet a core part of the study programs requiring research was access to a good library. The internet opened up this knowledge to all students with access to the World Wide Web. The skill researchers needed to develop was their ability to find the required information on the net.

AI has moved this process forward. It will search the internet at speeds individual researchers are incapable of replicating and if the knowledge is somewhere on a website retrieve it. Like the problem St Clements had when they first started to use the internet determining the accuracy of the information on a website. AI provided information has the same problem only more so. This is because AI will when it provides inaccurate information do so confidently. Users of AI need to be aware of this. Just because AI states a 'fact' the researching student needs to confirm the accuracy.

Most of the higher education institutions are trying to treat AI material as if it is plagiarised. I sympathise with this desire but believe it is as inevitable a tool as a typewriter became in an earlier era.



Dr David Le Cornu
President - St Clements Education Group

Professional Organisations News

The Institution of International Professional Engineers

This body was established by international members of the Society of Professional (UK) who did not agree to the merging of The Society of Professional Engineers (UK) with the Institution of Engineering Technologists to give up their P.Eng designation without seeking the votes of the international members of the Society of Professional Engineers (UK). These international members who were life members of the Society of Professional Engineers (UK) formed themselves into the Society of Professional Engineering and International to maintain their P.Eng. Designation in 2018. As this body was not formally registered in the UK and the Society was then renamed The Institution of International Professional Engineers.

Institute of Internal Auditors

This body has developed programs to develop people's internal auditing knowledge. It has three grades of membership:

- **Affiliate member** – This is for people who help in the auditing process but are not formally qualified.
- **Associate member** – This is for people with generic Accounting qualifications, but who have not yet studied.
- **Professional member** status is for those who have demonstrated they have the competency to practice effectively as professional internal Auditors. To apply for this you need to have a minimum of 24 months of work experience in an internal auditing role, completed a Graduate Certificate in Internal Auditing and will declare you will practice in accordance with the Institute of Internal Auditors international professional practice framework.

Faculty of Professional and Technical Management

This year the FPBTM is celebrating its Ruby Anniversary. It is 40 years ago since Professor Dr Herbert (Bert) Manners established the body as Professional Business and Technical Management. It was designed to give professional recognition to people who worked as technical staff and developed their management knowledge. It offered them a range of grades (Technical, Associate, Full Member, Fellow and Companion). Ten years ago the institute decided to become a Faculty to emphasise it was encouraging members to develop their knowledge in technical and management skills. Professor Dr Johan Potgieter is the current President of the Faculty.

The Institute of Manufacturing

This year is the Institute of Manufacturing's 45th year – It was 45 years ago that Professor Dr Herbert Manners established the Institute. He did so because he saw that most Manufacturing Managers had good technical knowledge and skills in the areas their organization made products for, but often lacked the formal academic recognition of those skills and knowledge. Professor Dr Manners established a system of recognition for skills and knowledge into credit points and where practical, encourage education institutions to recognise those points for further studies.

Over the past 45 years many universities have started offering programs designed for people working in the Manufacturing industry. The Institute has designed a number of courses at Diploma, Advanced Diploma, Professional Diploma and Executive Diploma levels for Institute of Manufacturing Managers to upgrade their Management knowledge. There are three Institutes involved with Manufacturing in the United Kingdom.

Institute for Manufacturing:

This body is part of the University of Cambridge's Department of Engineering and it was established in 1998

Manufacturing Institute:

This Institute was established in 1995 by Manufacturers in the Greater Manchester area. In co-operation with the Lancaster University it offers a Post Graduate Diploma in Manufacturing Leadership and a Master of Science in Manufacturing Leadership.

The Institute of Manufacturing:

The Institute of Manufacturing being founded in 1978, is the oldest of these institutions and the only one to offer levels of Professional membership (Associate, Full member, Fellow and Companion).

Progress Proceeding with the Cotonou Campus

The building is proceeding with the École Supérieure Universitaire St Clements and Commonwealth campus on the outskirts of Cotonou. It is being built on the eastern side of Cotonou.

If you go back to the July copy of 'Anchor' and look at the photographs published in that edition you can see the progress made over the past three months. Professor Dr David Iornem, the President of École Supérieure Universitaire St Clements, believes it will be ready for students for the start of 2024.

The first completed stage will comprise 8 classrooms and offices. The second stage will comprise of a two storey building containing 12 classrooms and 12 offices.



Fixing of Windows on the Block of 8 Classrooms



Second Stage - Laying of Foundation for the 2 story building containing 12 Classrooms and 12 Offices



First completed stage - Block of 8 Classrooms



Front distant view of the complete block of 8 Classrooms



Prototype: The Block with the Blue Roof has been completed and will be ready for occupation in September 2023

New Masters Program

Master of Science in Advanced Blockchain Development and Management

Blockchains are the platform Bitcoin and other digital currencies are built on. Dr Atul Sharma has developed a Master of Science in Advanced Blockchain Development and Management – Blockchains are one of the growing areas of Information Technology development. As well as it is glamorous to use as a digital currency platform, it has a growing use for maintaining records which show continuous ownership. Organisations operating in the Information Technology field need expertise in this area if they are to remaining industry relevant.

The cost of this program is US\$3750. There is a special US\$1000 Scholarship for St Clements Graduates who enroll before the end of October making your cost US\$2750. This is a very well priced program.

Study material and exams

All the modules will be delivered online through an e-learning platform based on Moodle. Students will be provided with online learning resources (e.g., books, slides, lessons) available for each module of the course available in the LMS platform (additional study material for personal use may be made available upon request by students).

There are two evaluation methods:

- formative assessments, which occur within a module and are used to determine how well students are learning the material;
- summative assessments, which are referred to as a final exam of each module and measure what students have learned after completing a module.

The type of exam related to summative assessment can be:

1. essay questions;
2. online interview;
3. peer evaluation and review; which depends on the assessed module (see below).

Mandatory modules:

- Software Engineering
- Blockchain Development Fundamentals
- Blockchain and Smart Contract Security
- Blockchain Privacy and Scalability
- Introduction to Blockchain Technology
- Introduction to Cryptography
- Introduction to Cyber Security
- Distributed Systems

Optional modules Blockchain Development (select any two from)

- Web Programming Basics
- Blockchain Solutions and Smart Contracts
- Development of Decentralized Applications
- Software Project Management

Optional modules Blockchain Management (select any two from)

- Token Economics
- Emerging Topics in FinTech
- Blockchain Business Applications
- Ethics and Laws in Blockchain
- Blockchain in Finance

Executive Certificate in Blockchain Development

This program will count as a subject in the Master of Science in Advanced Blockchain Development and Management and give you a taste of the program. The cost for this program is US\$195. If you wish to develop your knowledge about Blockchain enroll into this program and if it is a program you wish to specialize in the US\$195 will be taken off the full price of the M Sc program cost.

For further information on this program and scholarship please contact admin@scusuisse.ch

The Cameroon 2023 Defense and Conferment Ceremony

A Brief Report of the Defense and Conferment Ceremony of 14.07.2023

The program started with a validation of the defense video by the President of Ecole de commerce SCPU, Professor David Le Cornu. Then an introduction of the Jury as follows;

Professor Egbe John Ebai	President of Jury
Professor Forjindam Denison	Examiner
Professor Daniel Tata	Assessor

The President of the Jury Professor Egbe John Ebai who is also the Coordinator of Doctoral program at IUGET gave an introduction of the study program and presented the candidates and their topics for defense as follows;

Sighan Kenneth on:

“The effect of taxes and economic mindset on the performance of agricultural value chain businesses in the western highlands of Cameroon. perspectives and considerations for direct marketing and commercial excellence”.

Helvecia Takwe on:

“Transitioning Female Entrepreneurs from the Informal to the Formal Economy: The Case Study of the North-West and South-West Regions of the Republic of Cameroon”.

Ayuk Celestine on:

“The Impact of Covid19 on Workplace Flexibility and Working Environment on Employee’s Performance in Cameroon. Case Study: Ericsson Cameroon”.



The defenses took four and half hours. After the defense, was the conferment Ceremony. The ceremony started with the entering into the hall of family members, Doctoral students of IUGET, public, officials of IUGET. Then procession was

led by the Jury president with the President of IUGET as special Guest.

The defense was validated and the results were proclaimed by the President of the Jury. A congratulatory video speech from the President of Ecole de Commerce SCPU was played, who congratulated the students for their great achievement and promise to attend the next convocation of 2024. Then followed by a speech from the representative and member of Academic Board of Ecole de Commerce SCPU, Professor Daniel Tata who gave a background of the school, and explained that; this is the first time in the professional and academic history of Cameroon where students are defending a professional Doctorate Degree and lauded the effort of all the Candidates for a job well done. He also introduced Dr Douglas Mapingire who came all the way from the UK to receive his degree on the IUGET Campus.



The President of IUGET University, the Honorable, HRM Dr Nguepi Joseph delivered his message to the graduates. He congratulated the graduates on their achievements and that as first batch of the program, they should represent the true values and colors of the institution in the society and in their professional lives. He conferred the title of Ambassador of IUGET to all the graduates.



After the message, the graduates finally received their Doctorate Degree they have earned after three to four years of research. Dr Douglas Mapingire who came from London also expressed his gratitude, that he had the option to go to Switzerland, Singapore or New Zealand for his defense but choose Cameroon when he saw the beautiful Campus of IUGET and to enjoy the hospitality of the Cameroon people.



The representative of the Graduates Dr Sighan Kenneth delivered words of gratitude on behalf of all the graduates. He thanked the SCPU for given them such a wonderful opportunity to earn a Doctorate Degree. He equally thanked the Jury, the Supervisors, the President of IUGET University and all the guests including Professors from other state university who came to witness the occasion which was the first in Cameroon.

All the guest and family members expressed their satisfaction of the occasion and the quality of the presentation and thanked SCPU for solving the problems of Cameroonians with MBA degrees.

The occasion was concluded with a cocktail party in the VIP Hall of IUGET.



Other Universities News

The Four Oldest Universities are African Universities

The African continent is home to four of the world's oldest universities, while the North African region plays host to the oldest higher learning institutions in the world. A project focusing on the history of the institutions finds that, contrary to the commonly held belief that the oldest university in the world was established in Greece, Tunisia's **El-Zitouna University**, established in 737AD, is the planet's most ancient institution still in operation. Founded first as a Madrasa-Islam teaching school, and later as a university, El-Zitouna's study could still study science, philosophy, mathematics, and the arts, among other subjects, despite its religious focus, the study by Erudera claims. The **University of Al-Qarawiyyin** in Fez, Morocco, which was established in 859 AD is the second oldest higher learning institution still operational to date, cementing North Africa's place as the cradle and home of higher education. "Fatima is believed to have used money inherited from her father to build the Al-Qarawiyyin Mosque, which subsequently developed a teaching institution and later became the University of Al-Qarawiyyin. Egypt's Al-Azhar University in Cairo, comes in third, founded in 970AD. Twenty years later, Mali's famous King Mansa Musa, gifted Sub Saharan Africa with the first and the world's fourth oldest university, the University of Sankore` (a mosque university), in 989AD.

International American University

The Academic Council News Report has recently reviewed all their recent Prospectus documents. In 2006 International American University received its initial license to operate by the State of California Bureau for Private Post Secondary and Vocational Education. This approval process was designed to deliver minimum quality standards for such educational institutions. In 2007 the Californian Bureau for Private Post Secondary and Vocational Education was dissolved. This was a problem for institutions like the IAU, which were previously licensed by this "old" act. It was decided that institutions so approved pre 2007 could continue to operate provided they agreed to continue under the Californian Department of Consumer Affairs rules. St Clements University has several recognition agreements with the International American University. It is one of the most successful California State only registered education institution.

New Proposed Adelaide University

It is proposed that the University of South Australia and the University of Adelaide amalgamate to become the Adelaide University. As both existing universities were formed by acts of state parliament, a new act will need to be passed to create this new institution. It will be by far the largest University in South Australia. The two other Universities will be Flinders University and Torrens University – a private, internationally owned institution.

Alphacrucis University College

This is the first private University College to become licensed in Australia. It is owned by the Assemblies of God in Australia. It started off in tertiary education as Southern Cross College, which became Southern Cross School of Graduate Studies. It became Alphacrucis University College in May 2022. It mainly offers Certificates, Diplomas, Bachelor and Master degrees in Education and Teaching.

EU Business School

The School was started in 1973 as the European University registered in Belgium with its main campus in Switzerland. Due to facts lost in history, it ceased its Belgium registration and became corporately registered in Switzerland. When the Swiss National Government banned the use of the word University, it became the EU Business School. It has campuses in Barcelona (Spain), Geneva (Switzerland) and Munich (Germany) and recruits a range of leading EU Business Leaders to be affiliated with it.

Newport University

This was one of the leading non-traditional universities operating in California in the 1970's. It was approved by the Bureau of Private Post Secondary and Vocational Education in California. In 2009 it established a Latvian Chapter. In 2011 the Californian institution was taken over and renamed Janus University California. The Latvian Chapter became completely separate. It has no campus in Latvia, but an Administration Office in Bangladesh. The Distance Education Office achieved accreditation from the International Distance Education Accreditation League and the Philippines National Network of Quality Assurance Agents recognised it in 2015. In 2020 it registered in the state of Utah.