

AUTHORIZED TEST CENTER, LA PAZ - BOLIVIA

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The first months of 2016, we visited the website of European Chemistry Thematic Network, ECTN, we look the objectives, the scope of their activities among universities and other institutions. What we found, woke up our interest to become part of this network. So, we contacted ECTN with high expectations to participate in your programs.

I would like to highlight the cordial response of Prof. Anthony Smith, not only he was very supportive he also opened us the doors to be part of the network. The respective consultations were made and we have the ECTN Membership since June 2016 to the date.

Despite the distance, we have been informed about the various programs and activities that ECTN has, due to the communication technology that we have now. Documents such as List of Learning Objectives of Corechem, Eurobachelor, Euromaster, Doctorate Eurolabel, Educating tomorrow's chemists and others, were sent to us by professors Anthony Smith, Pavel Drassar, Reiner Salzer, to whom we send our gratitude for their support because we found the material very valuable.

It is our objective to improve the chemical education in our universities, we have found that the EChemTest program, through tests in different chemistry subjects, allows us to evaluate the knowledge of our students and the quality of education that is imparted to them, for that reason we gave special attention to this program. We got in touch with Prof. Antonio Laganà, to whom we want to express our deepest gratitude and special recognition, thanks to his kindness we exchanged information and made numerous arrangements, until finally on November 16, 2017, the international agreement between ECTN represented by Prof. Antonio Laganà, Chair of the ECTN VEC, and the Industrial Chemistry Career of UMSA, represented by Dr. Waldo Albarracín, Rector of UMSA, became a reality, through which we can access the EChemTest programs, as an Authorized Test Center, in La Paz, Bolivia.

We have been informed that the tests are in English, the official language of ECTN, so we have requested access to these tests on their Spanish versions and thanks to the comprehension of Prof. Laganà, we are working with Prof. Osvaldo Gervasi, in the validation of General Chemistry libraries in Spanish, we intend to evaluate our career from the early semesters. We have information that validated Spanish libraries are available, for subjects such as Organic Chemistry and others, we intend to access later on, that will ease our work to develop the EchemTest program in Bolivia in a significant way. It is our objective in the medium term, to achieve the international accreditation of the ECTN for our Industrial Chemical Career. We are working simultaneously on the habilitation of the technology and infrastructure necessary to implement these tests with our students.

Prof. Laganà informed us that he coordinated with Prof. Sanjiv Prashar and a group of professors from Universidad Complutense de Madrid, which are part of the Spanish National Test Center, so that they can give support and remotely coordinate Spanish speaking ECTN institutions such as Universidad Mayor de San Andrés in La Paz, Bolivia. This designation seems the right path to follow and we want to work with them to achieve our objectives with EChemTest and other ECTN projects.

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