

The international vocation of Unioeste

The Western Paraná State University – Unioeste is a growing multicampus regional public university with its five campuses in Cascavel, Foz de Iguaçu, Francisco Beltrão, Marechal Cândido Rondon e Toledo along with HUOP – the most important public hospital in the area, it has a strong zone of influence over at least one hundred municipalities that surpasses the boundaries of Brazil. Unioeste has as its mission to produce, organize and socialize knowledge, contributing to human, scientific, technological and regional development, committing to justice, democracy, citizenship and social responsibility. The most renowned university in the region, with its 1.352 professors and 11.310 students, distributed in 218 research groups and 12 research centers, awards 52 undergraduate degrees and 66 graduate degrees at the professional, master's and doctoral levels in the main disciplines of the humanities; social sciences; life sciences and medicine; natural sciences; and engineering and technology. Unioeste is located at the most strategic connection between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans in South America. Situated in a prosperous, puissant and privileged region of the Brazilian state of Paraná, amidst the states of Santa Catarina and Mato Grosso do Sul, is also neighboring the Argentinian province of Misiones and the Paraguayan departments of Canindeyú and Alto Paraná. Western Paraná is also home of a World Heritage and one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World – the Iguassu National Park and the Iguassu Falls, the Itaipú Hydroelectric Dam and the Itaipú Lake. This region is characterized by its diverse population, with various religious backgrounds – Jews, Muslims, Catholics, Protestants, Buddhists, Umbandist and other cohabiting peacefully – results of a series of miscegenation between Portuguese

and Spaniards settlers, native Indigenous and African slaves along with a second migratory wave occurred by Germans, Italians, Poles, Japanese, Ukrainian, Austrian, Hungarian, Slav, English, Syrians, Lebanese, Chinese and Swiss. Nowadays, it is also possible to encounter fellow Argentinians, Paraguayans, Bolivians, Pakistani, Indians and Haitians living here. Due to its increasingly relevance in the regional dimension it is a matter of time before Unioeste becomes a significant player in the international arena extensively in teaching, research and outreach by balancing the institutional ties with the top tier global universities in the Northern hemisphere, our neighboring Latin American partners and strategic institutions in the African and Asian continents. International cooperation is supposed to happen not only by our researchers and their academic connections, it has to happen through a more formal and professional manner of the university as a whole. Unioeste is already located in a strategic location in the Latin American context, consequently it has inherently an international vocation, its main challenges putting forward this idea resides by bringing the mindsets of the people into the tune of the contemporary globalized world by acknowledging that the internationalization of the major institution of higher education in Western and Southwestern Paraná doesn't begin abroad, it happens by enhancing the multicultural aspects at home by embracing strategies seeking cultural diversity, international courses and interinstitutional mobility into our realities.

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Institutional Improvement

Established in 2016 a new era for an international Unioeste

The establishment of the International Office, in 2016, launches a new era for Unioeste. As the appointed sector of the Rectory that strives towards the internationalization of the institution as a whole, Unioeste has, from now on, a specialized department which aims towards enhancing international cooperation transversally at all levels throughout the undergraduate and graduate programs, research and outreach. The mission of the International Office is to facilitate actions with the international realm through academic mobility of students, scholars, researchers and staff; to stimulate the international engagement of networks and other associative forms between the different spheres of the university; to help hosting international visitors; to promote the institution abroad in order to recruit academics and researchers to our programs; and to enhance the positive experiences in international interinstitutional cooperation. Unioeste has many international strengths and emerging opportunities that augur well for a new stage of internationalization for the university. In this sense, the International Office of the institution, founded nearly eight months ago, has been working for the maximization of its internationalization through interinstitutional cooperation to create a multicultural environment in our campuses, in one hand with global top tier universities in North America and Europe. On the other, consolidating its positing as an effective player in the scope of Latin America, by embracing strategies towards its international vocation.

Unioeste elected the 27th best university in Brazil

In 2015, the National Institute of Studies and Educational Researches Anísio Teixeira (INEP), from the Brazilian Ministry of Education (MEC) has elected the best Universities in Brazil. In their methodology that evaluates the undergraduate programs of the Universities, Unioeste was elected the 27th best University in Brazil. In this national ranking, Unioeste has evolved from the 84th position to 27th in the last four years.

The registered trademark of Unioeste



The logo of Unioeste was chosen among 86 projects through a contest which was held in 1989. The winners were the architects Luis Alberto Cirico, Victor Hugo Bertolucci and Nelson Nabih Nastás, with their logo entitled *The Light of the West*. In 2016, the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI)

granted the official registered trademark Unioeste® to the institution. This fact, for Prof. Camilo Morejon, the Dean of Innovation (NIT) ensures that “the accumulated result of teaching, research, outreach and innovation, fruit of the tireless work and outstanding performance of our professors, administrative staff, undergraduate students, master’s students, doctoral students and our managers, is capitalized by our signature, our logo and trademarks, our greatest heritage, a pride for Western and Southwestern Paraná nationally and internationally”. Unioeste concentrates the greatest intellectual capital in the area, with the disposition of a gigantic technological and laboratorial infrastructure to meet the demands of a puissant and dynamic society.



Regional Cooperation



Unioeste is reference in regional planning and development

The Regional Development Center (NDR) of Unioeste Toledo became a reference in regional studies and recognized by its researches in the field of regional and territorial economic development. NDR that is coordinated by Prof. Jandir Ferreira de Lima claims that “beyond the activities of research and scientific production, the NDR is action along with outreach and service delivery. Some undertakings happened with the state universities of Paraná, Town Halls, organizations and the Federal government”. In July 2016, NDR delivered the preliminary report of the Development Forum of the Town of Marechal Cândido Rondon (Rondon) for 2035. The action of the professors of Unioeste Toledo and Unioeste Rondon, NIT, along with the Town Hall, Commercial and Entrepreneurship Association from Rondon, Rotary Club, Lions, and other partners even turn into reality the creation of the Council of Development of Rondon. For Prof. Jandir “the university, through NDR and NIT, is proud to support a history of greatness and success. And that progress, social inclusion and environmental sustainability by the master springs in the forthcoming years”. This important achievement reasserts the relevance of Unioeste to its contribution to the local population, community and society. In this case, it is remarkable that NDR collaborates to the improvement of the planning of the municipalities of the state of Paraná.

Itaipú Hydroelectric Dam and Unioeste



The Rector, Prof. Paulo Sérgio Wolff and the Vice-Rector, Prof. Moacir Piffer of Unioeste held, in March 2016, a meeting with the President of Itaipú Binational, Jorge Miguel Samek and the Managing Director of Itaipú Technological Park (PTI) Juan Carlos Sotuyo to strengthen the cooperation among both institutions. Unioeste already has a campus inside the structure of PTI/Itaipú. This new agreement is a tool to resolve demands from the companies of the region in the areas of management and industrial processes as well as to promote innovation, technological advancements and intellectual property.

Unioeste launches Peiex Cascavel

The Project Exporting Industrial Outreach (Peiex), connected to Unioeste, Fundação Araucária and the Brazilian Agency of Promotion of Exports and Investments (APEX Brasil), is characterized by a system of technical, technological and management troubleshooting that aims to increment com-

petitiveness and to promote the structural business exporting culture in the productive sectors of the economy. In July 2016, it was vested the Advisory Comitee of Peiex Cascavel for 2016 and 2017. In the 3 years of actuation, Peiex Cascavel attended over 300 enterprises of the region of the various economic segments. Over 1500 demands were implemented in strategic administration, human capital, finances and costs, marketing, production and foreign trade. Peiex Cascavel serves the following municipalities: Céu Azul, Matelândia, Santa Teresa do Oeste, Cascavel, Francisco Beltrão, Ampére, Dois Vizinhos, Salto do Lontra, Toledo, Marechal Cândido Rondon, Terra Roxa, Tupãssi e Corbélia. In foreign trade, over 30 new companies are already exporting, fruit of the action of Peiex Cascavel since 2013.

Cooperation with Europe



Unioeste strengthens cooperation with Romanian Universities



The Dean of International Relations of Unioeste, Prof. Pery Francisco Assis Shikida, visited, in February 2016, and gave lectures in the Babeş-Bolyai University (BBU) and the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine (USAMV) on the subjects *Challenges for the Brazilian agriculture on the global market* and *The economic viability of ethanol production from sugarcane in Brazil*. In return, Prof. Alina Bianca Andreica, from BBU, visited Unioeste, in May 2016, to give a couple of lectures entitled *IT management and IT tools for organizational competitiveness* in the campuses of Cascavel, Foz do Iguaçu, Francisco Beltrão and Toledo. The Erasmus+ Program of the European Union is sponsoring this important cooperation. It has, besides bringing Prof. Andreica to Paraná, allowed that three professionals of Unioeste could be visiting professors at BBU in 2015 and 2016, in addition to three students from the Graduate Program of Regional Development and Agribusiness (PGDRA) that were allowed to study part of their master’s and doctoral levels at BBU.

Unioeste advances its cooperation with Viana do Castelo

The cooperation agreement with Instituto Politecnico de Viana do Castelo (IPVC) at Minho, Portugal has resulted in 3 undergraduate exchangees from Accountancy and Business from Unioeste Cascavel that are departing, in August 2016, for a semester at the business school from our European partner. In cases of cooperation agreements signed by Unioeste, the students are excepted from tuition fees and other administrative taxes, they need to bear with their transportation, accommodation and stay. All courses taken in Portugal will be used for their completion of the degree.

International Office increase cooperation with La Rioja

The Dean of International Relations of Unioeste has visited, in January 2016, the University of La Rioja in Spain. The visit had the main objective to increase the cooperation among both institutions. In the opportunity the professor gave a seminar for the Spanish students about the Brazilian agriculture system and its potentialities.

Valladolid hosts for the third year exchangees from Unioeste

The Iberoamerican Scholarship Santander Program is in its third edition. The undergraduate students that were awarded the scholarship are due to departure to the University of Valladolid in January 2017. It is the third year in a row that our Spanish partner agreed to host our Laws undergraduates from Unioeste Francisco Beltrão. The quality of the selected students sent to Spain guarantee the maintenance of the interinstitutional partnership.

Double Degree Program between Unioeste and Ancona

The doctoral student in Regional Development and Agribusiness of Toledo Bárbara Françoise Cardoso defended, in 2016, the first double degree between Unioeste and a foreign partner, in this case the Università Politecnica delle Marche (Univpm) from Italy. Her thesis is entitled *Analysis of the bio-diesel agroindustrial system in Brazil and the European Union*. The student stated "the experience she had in Italy was more than a professional and academic learning, that it was a whole new life experience".

Unioeste representing the state of Paraná in Turkey

Unioeste has been, in March 2016, invited by the Brazilian International Association of Inventors, Scientists and Innovative Entrepreneurship (ABIPIR) and the International Federations of Inventors Associations (IFIA) to establish cooperation with international institutions that promotes the prospection, diffusion and transference of technologies. The first results of this cooperation are the participation of Prof. Camilo Morejon, NIT, of the institution, as a member of the Brazilian delegation in the Istanbul International Invention Fair – ISIF '16 representing the whole higher education system of the state of Paraná.

Cooperation with USA



USDA-ARS visits Unioeste



Prof. Ariel A. Szogi, Director of the Coastal Plain Soil, Water and Plant Conservation Research of the Agricultural Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA-ARS) visited, in July 2016, Unioeste Cascavel, Unioeste Toledo and the Rectory of Unioeste. The professor, which holds the title of Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy, and Fullbright specialist by the US State Department, gave seminars for the Graduate Program of Agriculture Engineering (PGAGRI) and used the opportunity to deepen the cooperative ties between Unioeste and the USA, which potentially will result in the development and execution of programs and projects of cooperation and exchange in educational, cultural, scientific, technological and research collaboration.

Delegation of the IBIP 2016 from Illinois visits Unioeste



The International Business Immersion Program 2016 from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, composed of 21 students and 2 professors, Mary Arendt and Nick Paulson was partially held at Unioeste, in May 2016. The main interest of this group is fundamentally linked to the agribusiness sector (economy, planning, market, management, agriculture and rural communication), while their main objectives were the interaction with scholars from Unioeste in this visit lead by the International Office. In this assembly held in English at the Auditorium of the Superior Council of Unioeste at the Rectory in Cascavel, the institution was presented by the International Office as the different graduate programs offered by Unioeste. At the occasion, it was signed the Memorandum of Understanding between the institutions, as well as the release of the first edition of the Western Paraná Herald.

American professor from Wisconsin gave seminars at Unioeste

Prof. David Marcouiller from the University of Wisconsin – Madison gave, in March 2016, a series of seminars on the area of economy of tourism, agriculture and economy and development. This initiative from Unioeste is another attempt to bring closer our professors and academic community to the top-tier researchers and professionals. For the International Office "to maximize the possible interactions among undergraduate and graduate programs with international scholars allows a synergic effect that only tends to contribute to the academy and to increase the relevance of Unioeste in the globalized world".



Cooperation with Latin America



Unioeste strengthens and reinforce cooperative ties with Unican

In the course of a month, between July and August 2016, three official visits between authorities from Unioeste and Universidad Nacional de Canindeyú – Unican, reassert the interest of the International Office in promoting internationalization in a broad regional perspective. These meetings that included the participation of many representatives of both institutions gathered firstly, in the Rectory, to create the first contact among both universities. In return, both organizations met, in Salto del Guairá, to celebrate a cooperation agreement in diverse areas of knowledge, aiming at the exchange of experiences and the common development of strategies in the areas of teaching, research, outreach and innovation bringing both institutions closer. Advancing in the understandings of mutual interinstitutional potentialities and interests another meeting took place in Unioeste Rondon. In this occasion, the presents were divided in task groups to enable, as an initial action, the capacitation of the academic staff of Unican into our graduate programs, in the areas of Agronomy and Social Sciences. For Rector Morel "at this moment, we need to capacitate our future masters and doctors, as well as structure our Unican, that is still very young, in the same mold of what Unioeste represents for Paraná and Brazil". Rector Wolff claims that "the qualitative evolution of our



academic staff was the key element that based the institutional quality from Unioeste, and that our scholars will allow the academic development of the teaching staff of Unican". According to the International Office "there are two types of international cooperation, South-North and South-South. This agreement with Unican relates to solidarity in South-South cooperation. We have built agreements and profitable relations with many European countries and from North America, yet we cannot forget our neighbors Paraguay, Argentina,



Uruguay, Bolivia, and other countries in this axis. Furthermore, the vital role played by the university is indispensable in the integrative process between nations. In this specific case, the partnership with Unioeste is fundamental for the development of Unican, the youngest public university of Paraguay, not only by the proximity of our institutions, but mainly by the know-how obtained by the consolidation and strong expansion of Unioeste in its process of transformation between undergraduate programs into graduate programs at the master's and doctoral levels".

Argentinian professor from UNNE gave lecture at Unioeste

The Graduate Programs of Energy in Agriculture from Unioeste Cascavel, Chemistry and Environmental Sciences from Unioeste Toledo promoted, in August 2016, the seminar Computer chemistry applications to scientific and technological systems of interest lectured by Prof. Maria Fernanda Zalar, from the Universidad Nacional del Nordeste (UNNE) from the province of Corrientes in Argentina. Prof. Cleber Lindino asserts "that this visit has brought new paths towards academic cooperation among both institutions".

Unioeste selects proposals of ZICOSUR's international mobility program

The Association of Universities of the Zone of Integration of the Center West of South America – ZICOSUR University, promotes an international program of mobility of scholars between the institutions that are members of the network. This year Unioeste is selecting proposals of mobility to UNNE. The results are due to be released in August 2016. The stay will be from 7 up to 15 days and must contribute to the advancement of teaching, research, outreach or innovation and will take place in the second semester of 2016 at UNNE Corrientes or Resistencia in Argentina.

Director of International Relation from Bolivian university visits Unioeste

The Director of International Relations of Universidad Técnica Privada Cosmos – UNITEPC from Bolivia visited Unioeste, in July 2016. His visit took place at Unioeste Cascavel, Rectoria and the Western Paraná University Hospital – HUOP. For Vice Rector Piffer "it is very important to establish ties

with all Latin American countries in the sense of narrowing the relations of teaching, research, outreach and innovation".

Cooperation with Africa



Unioeste in Ivory Coast

The Prof. Wilson Rogério Boscolo and Nyamien Yahaut Sebastien from the field of Fishery Engineering gave, in April 2016, a seminar capacitating the local community of Bouaké, in the Ivory Coast, about the formulation and elaboration of tilapia fish feed.

Research achievements



Agriculture Engineering participates in UN Project

Prof. Simone Damasceno Gomes represented, in March 2016, the Unioeste's Program of Agriculture Engineering in the UN's Project Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund for South-South Cooperation (PGTF) with the approved project Biohydrogen from wastes of sugar cane, onion and manioc industries.

Professor is awarded prize by project preventing cancer

Prof. Carolina Panis, from Unioeste Beltrão was awarded a prize called *Prevent Cancer Now* – Cancer Prevention Award 2015 by her project on preventing cancer on the global taskforce Halifax Project – Broad-Spectrum Integrative Design for Cancer Prevention and Therapy. The contribution of the professor was through the topic tumor promoting inflammation in the last four years, and resulted two articles in Seminars in Cancer Biology and was, in May 2016, the theme of the editorial of the Journal of Clinical Oncology.

News from the campuses



Unioeste uses the passage of the Olympic Torch to serve the community

During the passage of the Olympic Torch through the region, students and professors from the undergraduate programs in Dentistry and Nursery from Unioeste Cascavel and Physical Education from Unioeste Rondon participated in an outreach project to serve the population with services provided by what is taught in those classes, such as buccal care, corporal mass index, exams of diabetes, hypertension, among others.

Time capsule in Unioeste Cascavel



Prof. Vilmar Malacarne is executing a research project called Time capsule annex to the sun clock at the campus. The main objective of this initiative is to divulge science and to stimulate children and other students to imagine which kind of belongings are inside it. The time capsule is due to be opened in August 16th 2072, date on which will be celebrated the centenary anniversary of the establishment of Unioeste Cascavel .