

De: Alla Ditta Raza Choudary <Choudary@cwu.edu>
Objet: RE: Emerging Regional Centre of Excellence (ERCE) label of the European Mathematical Society
Date: 29 septembre 2015 13:20:51 UTC+2
À: WALDSCHMIDT Michel <michel.waldschmidt@imj-prg.fr>
Renvoyé-De: <michel.waldschmidt@imj-prg.fr>

Dear Michel,

Here are few things that I would like to say about EMS - ERCE label.

Abdus Salam School of Mathematical Sciences (ASSMS) received the label of ERCE from EMS in 2011 when Martha Sanz-Sole was the President of EMS and I was the Director General at ASSMS. In fact the President of EMS herself came to Lahore, Pakistan at the occasion of 5th World Conference on 21st Century Mathematics 2011. At that time she formally gave ASSMS the label of ERCE.

This title (label) brought some immediate benefits to ASSMS. These benefits included:

- 1) More national and international funding for ASSMS;
- 2) More well known foreign mathematicians from academically advanced countries wanted and indeed visited ASSMS to teach courses for our PhD students and work with them on the research projects;
- 3) ASSMS is affiliated with GC University Lahore. When ASSMS received the ERCE label, the

University's prestige was raised and it reflected very positively in the national ranking of the University;

4) It was also due to ERCE label that several very good students from China, Indonesia and Iran applied for admission to the PhD program at ASSMS.

Although because of some technical reasons we were able to admit only one Indonesian student to our PhD program.

5) I participated in a CIMPA meeting two years ago in Paris. Directors of several institutions like ASSMS participated in that meeting. It was very clear to me that ERCE label is quite encouraging and inspiring for the institutions to collaborate with each other. If ERCE program is strengthened, it can provide a stronger base for such collaborations, which have a tremendous potential to boost up the quality of mathematics education and research in developing countries of the world.

With best regards,

A. D. Raza Choudary

From: Michel Waldschmidt

<waldschmidtmichel@gmail.com> on behalf of Michel WALDSCHMIDT <michel.waldschmidt@imj-prg.fr>

Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2015 8:00 PM

To: Alla Ditta Raza Choudary; Rashid Zaare-Nahandi; KAMEL ARIFFIN BIN MOHD ATAN; José Antonio de la Peña; DU, NGUYEN HUU

Cc: Pavel Exner; Tsou Sheung Tsun; Giulia Di Nunno

Subject: Emerging Regional Centre of Excellence (ERCE) label of the European Mathematical Society

To:

Alla Ditta Raza Choudary (ASSMS),
Rashid Zaare Nahandi (IASBS)
Kamel Ariffin Mohd Atan (INSPEM),
Jose Antonio de la Peña (CIMAT)
Nguyen Huu Du (VIASM).

Dear Colleagues,

Each of you is the Director of an Institute which received the ERCE Label.

ERCE stands for Emerging Regional Centre of Excellence, and your institute received this recognition for the work done in the training at M.Sc level and beyond of students from less developed countries in the region. Your centres were recognized to play a central role in this direction.

For further references:

<http://euro-math-soc.eu/EMS-CDC/erce.php>

This label was initiated 5 years ago as a special program within the European Mathematical Society (EMS).

So far, 5 centres received this recognition.

Last year there wasn't a new call and therefore there was no new ERCE label awarded in 2015.

At the present time, the EMS Executive Committee (EC) plans to discuss the future of this ERCE program during their meeting this coming November. The discussion includes an evaluation of the program and the discussion about continuation, possibly variation,

or disrupt of the very program.

The CDC strongly believes that this program is promising and that the 5 years life achieved so far is too short a period for judging its effects. We wish to convince the EC of EMS that it would be a real pity to disrupt this program at this early stage.

The EMS President EMS Pavel Exner attended our CDC meeting in Oslo last April.

Together we agreed that we would write to the 5 Directors of the ERCE centres and ask directly to give their opinion and write their comments.

Your input will be an essential piece of information for the members of EC to take their decision.

Therefore I would like to ask you to write a short report on the consequences of this ERCE label for your institute.

Some guidelines are given in attachment. Please try to reply to all questions.

I would like to receive you answer within **September 30th**.

Your feedback is very much appreciated as it is crucial for the discussion and for this the CDC thanks you in advance.

Best regards,

Michel Waldschmidt, on behalf of the Committee for Developing Countries of the European Mathematical Society