

**THE UNIVERSITY POLICY  
OF THE SALESIAN CONGREGATION, 2002 - 2008  
A schematic Proposal**

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**PRESENTATION**

**1. "Common Programme"**

- † Work already completed  
(Report IUS 2001" and "Diagnosis"  
"IUS identity"
- † Work yet to be completed (The University Policy of the Salesian Congregation)

**2. Method of collaboration.**

- † presentation of the scheme (to the Conference 2001 of t he IUS in America, Asia and Europe): October - November 2001.
- † Initial draft of the policy based on the scheme: November - December 2001
- † Discussion of the first draft with the academic communities of the IUS:  
February-May 2002
- † Second Draft: June 2002
- † Presentation of the Proposal to the Rector Major and Council. July 2002.

**3. Sources of Inspiration.**

- † "Common Programme, 1998 -2001", point 12
- † Report IUS 2001", "Diagnosis", "IUS identity"
- † Contribution of experts and groups: 3rd Meeting of the IUS (Rome, July 2001)

**PROPOSAL FOR " A UNIVERSITY POLICY  
OF THE SALESIAN CONGREGATION, 2002 -2008"**

**SCHEME**

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| <b>I. INTRODUCTION</b> |
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**1. The Journey Thusfar**

- † Birth of University institutions in the post 70 years
- † Initiative of the Rector Major: Creation of a specific service for the IUS
- † Consensus within the IUS: "Common Programme 1998 -2001"

**2. Salesian Presence at the University Level**

- 2.1. De Facto: Varied presence (cfr. "Rapport IUS 2001" and "IUS identity")
- † in their own university centres or (with only management responsibilities in other centres)
  - † Other services rendered to university students:
    - Professors in non-Salesian Universities
    - Campus Ministry in non-Salesian centres
    - Hostels for university students
    - Special care of university students in Salesian centres (parishes, youth centres...)
- 2.2 De iure: part of the Salesian Mission

**3. Reference Points**

- 3.1 From the Church
- † *Ex corde Ecclesiae* (John Paul II's Apostolic Constitution on Catholic Universities)
  - † *Presence of the Church in University and University Culture* (Congregation for Catholic Education. 1994)
- 3.2 From the Salesian Congregation (general)
- † Constitutions and Regulations (cite)
  - † General Chapters: 20th, 22nd, 23rd. (Educating youth in the faith), 24th (Salesians and Lay People)
  - † Sharing in Don Bosco's spirit and mission), 25th (The Salesian Community)
  - † Programme of the Rector Major and his Council for the six-year term 1996-2002.
  - † Programme of the Rector Major and his Council of the six-year 2002-2008

- 3.3. From the Salesian Congregation (specific)
- t *For you I study*, circular letter of the Rector Major
  - t *IUS 2001 Report and Diagnosis*
  - t *IUS Identity*

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| <b>II. GENERAL ORIENTATIONS FOR BUILDING UP OF THE SALESIAN PRESENCE IN THE UNIVERSITY</b> |
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**A. POLICY GUIDELINES**

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**1. Opting for the University**

1.1. Determination of the Congregation to be present in the University and to orientate, strengthen and qualify this presence (The Charter by the Rector Major, 9.12.1997 and the documents "IUS Identity" and "University Policy" which express this determination and are a response to the previous lack of foresight and planning.

1.2. Why Opt for the University?

- t Youth properly so-called are our "destinataries".
- t Educational and evangelical follow-up during the moments of important decisions (vocational and professional guidance.)
- t Imparting professional qualifications to help enter the world of work.
- t To encounter the world of culture and enrich it with the Salesian Charism.
- t Active presence of the Congregation in areas where social changes are promoted.

1.3. Assigning a Strategic Function to the IUS

- t The function:
  - "Model" sign of the cultural and formative involvement of the Congregation. (cfr Rector Major at the conclusion of the II IUS Meeting)
  - Stimulus and means at the service of the Congregation in its efforts for qualification and relevance (= *significatività*) Rector Major, Approval of the *Common Programme, 1998-2001* with ad intra and ad extra planning.
- t The Spheres
  - The whole Congregation
  - The Provinces responsible to the IUS

1.4. Quality as Criterion

## **2. Geographic and Scientific Areas to be Emphasized**

### **2.1. Geographical Areas**

t where the social need of education is greater especially for the underprivileged classes.

### **2.2. Scientific Areas**

t in general: those more linked to the youth on account of a n education and professional training more geared to job opportunities

t in particular:

- Science of Education and allied subjects
- Science of Communication
- Technical and Technological studies
- Studies oriented to meet the needs of the world of youth: evangelization, pastoral ministry and catechesis; sociology, politics and law.

## **3. Extent of the Institutional Involvement of the Congregation**

### **3.1 With regard to the Academic Level of the various Centres**

t Level One: courses to complete the technico -professional formation necessary for a higher level (2-3 years) (Junior College)

t Level Two: Schools of higher professional formation; first university degrees (3-4 years) (Degree College)

t Level Three: Second university qualification (2 years) (Master)

t Level Four : period for research in view of a doctorate (2 -3 years) (PhD).

### **3.2 With regard to the Responsibility of the Salesians in the Centres**

t Centres which are the property of and are under the exclusive direction of the Congregation

t Of a single Province

- Of several Provinces
- Of the Rector Major and his Council

t Centres in which the Congregation is involved and collaborates with other institutions with a greater or lesser degree of direct responsibility.

- With the FMA
- With other religious congregations
- With the bishops

## **4. Extent of Salesian Educative Influence**

### **4.1. On the students**

### **4.2. On the society (*cfr. the IUS identity*, 31) through**

- t Research
- t Services

**A. CONDITIONS ON WHICH THE UNIVERSITY POLICY IS BASED**

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- 1. Total integration in a provincial, regional, world congregational plan**
- 2. Qualified professional management (cf. IUS Identity, 32-33)**
- 3. Autofinancing and prior investments**
  - 3.1. Economic – financial planning
    - ◆ Principle: autofinancing through the income from fees and services
    - ◆ Availability of a sum of money for the IUS (through fun-raising) for specific aims: research, formation of the staff and scholarships.
  - 3.2. Priority of the investments
    - ◆ Ongoing formation of the staff
    - ◆ Technological networks of information and communication
- 4. Articulation of the IUS and the Institutionalization of their Coordination**
  - t Articulation of the IUS
    - First: based on a movement and a network of relations and collaborations among themselves.
    - Second: legal safeguards which are keeping with its need for coordination and further growth and extension without however supplanting the ordinary organization of the Congregation.
  - t Institutionalization of the coordination through a specific service of the Youth Ministry Department (Generalate)
- 5. Requirements to create a new University Centre**
  - 5.1. At the very outset, the Provincial contacts the Rector Major and his Council and presents a declaration of intent explaining:
    - ◆ The real social need for higher education for those whom the Congregation is working or the special necessity of a strategic nature.
    - ◆ The consensus of the confreres in the Province in this regard.
    - ◆ The integration of the projected centre in the educational – pastoral plan of the Province.
  - 5.2. To request Approval
    - ◆ A well-defined and concrete Institutional Project in keeping with the characteristics given in point III, 1, which indicate the spirit and orientation from the documents *IUS identity* and *University Policy in the Salesian Congregation*.

This Project has to be accompanied by:

- ◆ A *Strategic Plan* for at least 5 years guaranteeing human and economic resources, sufficient both in terms of quality and quantity.
- ◆ The detailed *Annual Plan* for the first year of the Centre's activities.

### III. PRIORITIES

#### Preliminary

- ◆ **Aim** of the following priorities: laying a strong foundation for the Salesian presence in the University so that the centres created may develop according to their own nature and specific identity, i.e. university institutions of Christian inspiration, Catholic character and Salesian style.
- ◆ **Manner of putting them into practice**: by the already tested system of "Common programmes" meant for all the IUS; evolving in determined periods of time.

#### 1. Working with a Project ("Navigation chart")

- t Mission-Vision- and Institutional Project
- t Strategic plans and annual programmes or plans
- t Institutional evaluation and accreditation (internal and external)

#### 2. To capitalize on the Human Resources (cfr. IUS Identity 29 -30)

##### 2.1. Criteria and Programme of Action

- t Choice of the staff (in keeping with the outline of the Institutional Project).
  - ◆ Qualified professional formation
    - in each one's specialty
    - in Salesian pedagogy (all to have the same common denominator)
  - ◆ identification and personal involvement in the Institutional Project.
  - ◆ Maximum utilization of the whole of the human resources beyond the requirements of a particular centre.

##### 2.2. Formation of a "group" to guarantee

- ◆ the realization of the Institutional Project
- ◆ continuity and change
- ◆ With the possibility of the exchange of the steering committee of each IUS.

##### 2.3. The Salesians

- t function of the Salesian in the Salesian University

- t A co-ordinated vision for the Salesians involved in University education (intellectual formation, nomination to University, service, mobility, study for Regions)

### **3. Synergistic Networking**

- 3.1. Networking with Universities
  - t Consolidation of networking within the IUS.
  - t Sharing with other University 'nets' (priority Catholic Universities, etc.)
- 3.2. Technological Networks of Information and Communication
  - t generalised setting up of technological 'nets' (TIC)
  - t general use in teaching, research, communications
  - t alternative complement of virtual distance education.

### **4. To Diffuse the educational System of Don Bosco in keeping with the needs and in different situations.**

- 4.1. ad intra: in the houses and initiatives of the Salesian Congregation
- 4.2. ad extra: in the Church and in the society

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| <b>IV INVOLVEMENT AT DIFFERENT LEVELS</b> |
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#### **1. Of the Generalate**

- 1.1. In the general orientation of the IUS (cfr. III, 1)
- 1.2. In capitalising of the human resources
  - t through a detailed study of the centres and regions:
    - of the Salesian personnel for the IUS
    - of the directive personnel (Salesians and lay people) of the IUS
  - t in the coordination of the IUS for a better use of the staff (cf. III, 2)
  - t in the Salesian formation of the staff (cf. III, 2)
- 1.3. In the institutional coordination of the IUS
- 1.4. Requesting services of the IUS for the Central Direction of the Congregation

#### **2. Of the Provinces**

- 2.1. With direct responsibility over the IUS
  - t to regulate the responsibility of the centre along the lines indicated in point II.

- t requesting the services of the IUS for the needs of the Province
  - t availability to prepare and give more Salesian personnel to the IUS
  - t to share qualified personnel with other IUS
- 2.2. Without direct responsibility over the IUS
- t asking for the services of the IUS for the needs of the Province
  - t availability to share qualified personnel with other IUS

### **3. Of the IUS**

- 3.1. Of each of the IUS
- t defining precisely and practically the typology of the centre (cf. II, 3)
  - t Regulating the centre to what is said in point II
  - t availability to share qualified personnel with other IUS
- 3.2. Of all the IUS as a whole
- t Taking forward in a coordinated and cooperative manner the goals laid down in point III.

Hyderabad, 27th October 2001.