EDITORIAL

José Alberto Nieto Rojas
UMECIT, Panama
rectoria@umecit.edu.pa

Certainty in university management

We are pleased to present a new issue of our Dialogus journal, whose content is of special interest to all our readers. In this space we want to give relevance to a topic that is of great importance to UMECIT regarding the certainty of university management.

A robust university strengthens the States and gives security to its citizens. UMECIT in its 18 years of authorization by the Panamanian government, has incorporated into its management a condition of contribution to the welfare of society and, for this, among its values has always been the transparency of its processes and procedures. Thus, for more than four years, the institution has strengthened its educational project for the country, Latin America and the world, incorporating new and advanced technologies that have placed it at the forefront, in terms of certainty, in the management processes of the University.

The implementation of the Cibersity platform, in all academic management processes and other related processes, has allowed to achieve excellent results that make the institution today a leader in terms of certainty and security for all members involved in the educational project. Cibersity brings a new paradigm by integrating the advanced electronic signature and digital certificate, in accordance with Panamanian regulations, in each of the management stages.

This unique feature of Cibersity facilitated the verification tasks of the authorities responsible for reaccreditation. After this experience, convinced of a paperless university, we believe that the future is heading in that direction, where transparency, certainty through the unalterability and traceability provided by this new technology, will make the university higher education system more solid, verifying in turn in real time, statistics for decision making that could serve to create a national university information system in Panama.

In a world where students and universities do not stop growing, the university more than ever has been placed at the center of the planet's development, with the enormous responsibility of giving public faith and accrediting professionals who, ultimately, will

improve the quality of life of citizens. It is, therefore, the certainty, compliance and security of the processes, among others, an essential condition for granting a degree on behalf of a State.

In today's society there would be no room for universities incapable of not complying with the aforementioned requirements, as well as those that are inefficient in their processes, either in paper consumption that deteriorates the environment or, in general, of any optimizable resource through the use of those new technologies that allow it. Cibersity has made UMECIT a more efficient, secure and socially responsible university.

Going further, social responsibility has become a condition for survival, but it is not enough to survive, something more is required, that intangible value that is cared for with truth and transparency, that value that is also built with legal certainty, becomes the most essential value of a sustainable institution over time: the reputation that not only benefits the institution but the students, teachers and those professionals of the future who will leave it and will proudly carry the good name and prestige of a university that has given them certainty.

I thank all the writers for their contributions and for making possible a new issue of the journal. I invite the academic community to continue writing in our journals, especially in the field of education, which the world needs so much.