

Press Release 1/2011

Claude Begle: designated Chairman at Peter Lang

The Peter Lang AG International Academic Publishers (PLIAP) is the leading Swiss player in its sector. It is a successful actor since 40 years in the field of academic publishing, particularly in countries such as Germany, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, USA, and Belgium with expansion markets such as France, Spain, Poland, Ireland, Benelux, and emerging countries like India and China.

It is currently publishing around 2'000 titles per year. The PLIAP Group has a healthy financial situation, with no indebtedness. It is wholly owned by the UK-based Peter Lang Children's Trust, a charity organization supporting educationally and financially disadvantaged children.

The market in which the Peter Lang Group operates is fast evolving, which implies the need for a constant adaptation of the group's strategy, structure and modus operandi. For example, textbooks are dominating the sales in the USA. And e-Books are just developing everywhere.

An important work has already been achieved by the current Chairman, Mr Paul G. Donald, and the CEO, Mr Tony Albalá de Rivas. That being done, Mr Paul G. Donald has decided to focus more on his responsibilities at the level of the Children's Trust. However, to ensure a smooth coordination between both entities, he will continue as Deputy Chairman of Peter Lang AG.

In order to accompany the necessary evolution of Peter Lang in the future, its penetration of new segments as well as its expansion into new international markets, the group has decided to nominate Dr Claude Béglé as new Chairman of the Board at its next General Assembly on 6th of July 2011. The new member will bring his vast international experience to ensure, together with the current management, the future growth and profitability of the Peter Lang group.