The 4th AfricaLics PhD Academy on Innovation and Competence Building Systems was held at École Supérieure de Commerce de Tunis (ESCT), 21\textsuperscript{st} March, 2016 to 2\textsuperscript{nd} April, 2016. AfricaLics is part of the worldwide research network, The Global Network for the Economics of Learning, Innovation, and Competence Building Systems (Globelics). The purpose of the AfricaLics PhD Academy is to support the training of African Doctoral students engaged in research on innovation and technology systems for development and innovation management in Africa. The Academy also aims to stimulate awareness of policy and management issues related to this field of research.

The Academy will host around 20 students from Africa and a handful of students from the rest of the world. The Academy will invite frontier researchers in innovation and development and innovation management from around the world to provide lectures and mentor students. The topics of the lectures will cover specific issues within innovation studies and economic development and innovation management as well as research methods and innovation policy.

The AfricaLics PhD Academy sessions will include the following activities:

- Lectures by senior researchers on areas ranging from research methodologies to the latest theories and empirical research in the fields of innovation, innovation management and development studies.
- Presentations by Doctoral students of their work with feedback from the senior scholars facilitating at the event.

**Host:** ESCT which is the École Supérieure de Commerce de Tunis in collaboration with the University of Manouba

Participants and qualification requirements

- The number of candidates will be a maximum of 30. To qualify for participation, the applicants should fulfill the following requirements: be at least in the beginning of his/her second year; (a limited number of students in their first year can be accepted)
- Work explicitly on issues related to policy oriented analysis of science, technology and innovation systems and technology management; be able to present an original paper reflecting his/her research and/or thesis work;
- Senior scholars invited to facilitate are: Bengt-Åke Lundvall, (Denmark), Edward Lorenz (USA), David Kaplan (South Africa), Franco Malerba (Italy), Keun Lee (South Korea) and others including well known scholars from the region.
Submission
Participants must submit an extended abstract of no more than 5 pages. Abstracts should be typed double-spaced in French or in English. The abstract should state the objectives, methodology, expected results and conclusions of the work, including supporting figures and main references. The abstract, CV and a recommendation letter from the supervisor or a senior scholar should be sent to the Local Secretariat whose contacts are given below on or before 07 December 2015.

Selection
All extended abstracts will be reviewed by at least two senior scholars from a review panel made up of members of the AfricaLics Scientific Board and ESCT. Selection will be made based on academic quality of papers as well as to promote diversity (by location, gender etc.). Successful applicants will be notified by 23rd December 2015 of their acceptance to the Academy. Students selected should provide a full paper by 10th January 2016.

Sponsorship
Accommodation expenses including meals will be covered for all selected participants for the two weeks of the Academy. We encourage applicants to apply to their host institution or projects for travel support. Travel expenses for participants unable to secure funding from their institutions will be considered. For students unable to gain funding from their institution, it is possible to apply to the AfricaLics Secretariat for travel support. The closing date for travel support applications is also 30th December 2015.

Please email secretariat@africalics.org for the application form and terms and conditions of the travel support available. Note that there are limited funds available and not all applications for travel support will be successful.

Support
The fourth AfricaLics Academy is supported by

- École Supérieure de Commerce de Tunis
- University of Manouba
- Tunisian Economists’ Association
- Sida
- Aalborg University, Denmark
- African Centre for Technology Studies

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Contacts

Local Coordinator and chairman organizing Committee: Pr Hatem M’HENNI: Hatem.Mhenni@essect.rnu.tn
International coordination: Pr. Abdelkader Djeflat: abdelkader.djeflat@univ-lille1.fr
AfricaLics Secretariat and travel support contact: secretariat@africalics.org