Swiss and European innovation strategies in a global economy (S)

October 23rd/24th, 2006 - EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

SEMINAR / CONTINUING EDUCATION:
"SEISGE - Swiss and European Innovation Strategies in a Global Economy"

The main objective of the seminar was to clarify the global economic challenge of innovation, with a special focus on Switzerland, Europe and the other major players in this field (USA, Japan and the new emerging countries).

- What are the challenges and operational strategies for countries characterized by a growth mainly fueled by innovation?
- How is Switzerland coping with these challenges: what strengths and weaknesses appear?
- Why is the joint commitment of European member states towards innovation so difficult to implement?
- Why do the US have a "superior" innovation system?

With the rapid growth of new technological giants, what consequences can be expected from the change in the distribution of the global capabilities to innovate?

The speakers:

- Prof. Dominique Foray - EPFL
- Dr. Florence Jaumotte - International Monetary Fund, Washington
- Dr. Hervé Lebret - EPFL
- Dr. Frédérique Sachwald - Institut Français des Relations Internationales, Paris

The seminar was jointly organized by EPFL's School of Continuing Education. Scientific Advisors from several Swiss Embassies around the world participated as special guests.