



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Daniel Zizian is appointed CREPUQ President and Director General

Montreal, September 8, 2009 – Heather Munroe-Blum, President of the Board of the Conference of Rectors and Principals of Quebec Universities (CREPUQ) and Principal and Vice-Chancellor of McGill University, is pleased to announce the appointment of Daniel Zizian to the position of President and Director General of the organization. Mr. Zizian has occupied the position of Director General at CREPUQ since September 2007.

A lawyer and an MBA, Mr. Zizian has worked in government, most notably as Chief of Staff to the *ministre d'État à l'Éducation et à la Jeunesse et vice-président du Conseil du trésor*. Over the course of his career, he has held various other positions in politics, communications and law. Prior to joining CREPUQ he was Assistant Secretary General and Executive Secretary for Strategic Issues at HEC Montréal. Mr. Zizian has also been very involved in the community, most actively in municipal politics, college and hospital administration, and with charitable causes.

The appointment follows an assessment by CREPUQ's board of the need for increased involvement of the organization in public policy issues related to universities. This process led, among other things, to a decision to name a full-time spokesperson for the organization, a function Mr. Zizian will assume in tandem with the President of the Board. Mr. Zizian will also participate in raising awareness of the role universities play in the economic, social and cultural development of Quebec society. In this regard, he will forge links with various partners to underline the importance of teaching and research to the public at large, governments, business and community organizations.

"Since 2007, Mr. Zizian has made an extremely valuable contribution to CREPUQ as Director General," Dr. Munroe-Blum noted. "His experience in the university sector, his rigor and unwavering commitment are important assets to CREPUQ and for the Quebec university system. Universities and partners from different sectors must come together to create an innovation society in Quebec. This is a major challenge that Mr. Zizian will contribute significantly to achieving, working in close collaboration with the university executive heads. I am delighted that he has accepted the President and Director General position."

"I would like to thank the rectors, principals and presidents of universities for the confidence they have demonstrated in me," Mr. Zizian said. "As part of my new responsibilities, I hope to increase awareness of the strategic role universities play in our prosperity, in the pursuit of social justice and in ensuring the health and welfare of the population, and thereby promote the concept of a knowledge society. Quebec students must have access to quality higher education and I intend to work toward

securing for universities the resources they need to engage in cutting edge teaching and research.”

CREPUQ includes all 18 Quebec universities. The organization acts as their voice in relations with government and sectors related to higher education. It also fosters coordination and collaboration between universities, is a research centre for university administrations, acts as a centre for coordination and joint service delivery, and is a resource centre and think tank for its members.

Source:

Chantal Pouliot, Director of Communications
Conference of Rectors and Principals of Quebec Universities
514 288-8524, extension 244