



Communiqué

de l'Ambassade des Etats-Unis

de presse

14-16 rue Rainitovo, Antsahavola, Antananarivo 101 – Madagascar - Tel.: 261 20 22 212 57

Monday, August 18, 2008

Launching of the First Annual Alumni-Educational Advising Camp, “Striving for Academic Excellence”

In its endeavor to increase the number of Malagasy students studying in the U.S., the U.S. Embassy is launching its first annual Alumni-Educational Advising Camp, “Striving for Academic Excellence,” jointly at the Ecole Normale Supérieure and Academie Nationale des Sports, Ampefiloha beginning August 20, 2008. 22 students from each region of Madagascar will attend courses and interactive sessions intended to strengthen their academic capacity and English Language skills and increase competitiveness for American universities. To achieve its goal, the U.S. Embassy collaborated with the Ministry of Education to identify the participating students and the Alumni of U.S. Government exchange programs to run the majority of the camp sessions aiming at inspiring Malagasy youth to excellence in education and service to the country.

The camp includes a variety of sessions with the goal to prepare Malagasy students for admission to U.S. universities. The U.S. Embassy’s English Teaching Program instructors will conduct several sessions to help develop the students English vocabulary, grammar, reading and speaking skills. Students will attend a session on study skills and test taking strategies to help them achieve higher academic performance. They will be provided information on the American education system. The Embassy’s Educational Advisor will conduct sessions on Admission process at American colleges and on funding for US Study. Participants will receive briefing on financial aid available to students, cultural differences and information technology information to further their educational goals.

For this year’s edition of the Youth Educational Advising Camp, students had to be selected by their English teachers and meet the following criteria: be from 11th grade (classe de Première); have strong academic background, i.e. they must have good grades; must have strong English; strong desire to pursue higher education in the U.S. and prove a certain level of maturity. It is the U.S. Embassy’s goal to sponsor this camp on an annual basis.