

Annual report



Compostela Group of Universities
ANNUAL REPORT

Casa da Cuncha, rúa da Conga 1

15782 Santiago de Compostela

Tel.: 0034 881 8 12931

Fax: 0034 881 8 12932

Website: www.gcompostela.org

E-mails: lucia.castro@usc.es

noelia.martinez.cagiao@usc.es

aroa.sanchez@usc.es

Edition and design: Noelia Martínez Cagiao

Proofreading: Michael Cooper



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The Compostela Group of Universities

“Europe was formed on the road to Santiago”, Goethe said. The underlying idea of mutual understanding and collaboration between different cultures inspired the University of Santiago de Compostela back in 1994 to create the Compostela Group of Universities (CGU), a non-profit international association aimed at fostering cooperation and promoting dialogue among higher education institutions.

Bringing together 67 universities from 26 different countries, the CGU has as its primary objectives strengthening the channels of communication between the member universities, organising events for the study and discussion of different issues related to the interests of the Group and promoting mobility between members, as a basis for enhancing the knowledge of different cultures and languages. The Secretariat of the association is located in Santiago de Compostela (Spain) and acts as the focal point for its members, coordinating, enhancing and promoting their activities.



The most relevant initiatives run by the CGU in the period covered in this report (September 2012-September 2013) were:

- The International Prize Grupo Compostela-Xunta de Galicia 2013, which will be awarded to Euronews during the General Council of the Group (19-21 September 2013 in Nantes, France).
- The exchange programme for administrative staff, Stella 2013, which awarded a record number of 19 intercontinental mobility grants.
- The three EMMA Project workshops in February, May and September 2013.
- The CGU's II International Video Contest for students, the winner of which was 'Future', a video by two students of the University of Monterrey (UDEM, Mexico).

The following pages will provide you more information about the CGU, its participation in projects funded by the European Commission and many other activities.

President's Message

Dear colleagues,

Our previous year brought both opportunities and challenges. The suggestions and initiatives that emerged at the Oulu General Assembly gave impetus to various initiatives of the Group over the previous twelve months.

We have made considerable progress with our European Union funded projects and you will find information on them in this report. Of course the programmes in which we are partners are just the tip of the iceberg. Only a percentage of all bids tend to be successful. Many of our members and, of course, the staff of our Secretariat, have been working hard on producing bids before tight deadlines and delivering to tight schedules. My sincere words of appreciation to all involved and, in particular, to Jean Pierre Roose who has done a wonderful job in working on our behalf in Brussels, representing us with the Commission, other networks and organisations.



At our previous General Assembly we agreed to launch Stella Junior, where again substantial progress has been made. The same is true in respect to the various communication activities led by Noelia Martinez Cagiao. Among them, I would like to highlight our International Video Contest, which was held for the second time in 2013 and awarded to two students from the University of Monterrey (Mexico). One of them, Fernanda Flota, will be joining us to accept the prize and present their video at the CGU next General Assembly (Nantes, 19-21 September 2013).

Although in some parts of the European Union economic confidence has very gradually started to return, the truth is that for many the recession is far from over. Manuel Freire-Garabal, together with Stockholm University, initiated a conference on Economic Crisis, Unemployment, Social and Health Effects held in Santiago de Compostela on 17 and 18 July 2013. This conference was supported by the CGU and resulted in a Declaration which is mentioned in this report. It will be presented for endorsement at the General Assembly.

At a press conference in Santiago de Compostela on 17 July, we announced this year's winner of the Compostela Prize: Euronews. Further information on Euronews' valuable work is given in this Annual Report.

Sadly quite shortly after the press conference, Galicia itself featured prominently in the news due to the awful train crash near Santiago de Compostela in which so many people lost their lives. It was with great relief to hear that the staff member of the Secretariat who was on that ill-fated train escaped miraculously without major injury. Our thoughts are with the people who died or were seriously hurt in this horrific accident.

I trust this report gives you a good insight into the excellent work that is being done with and for our member institutions.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to once again welcome the new members who joined us in 2012/2013 and look forward to welcoming further new members, subject to your approval, at our next General Assembly.

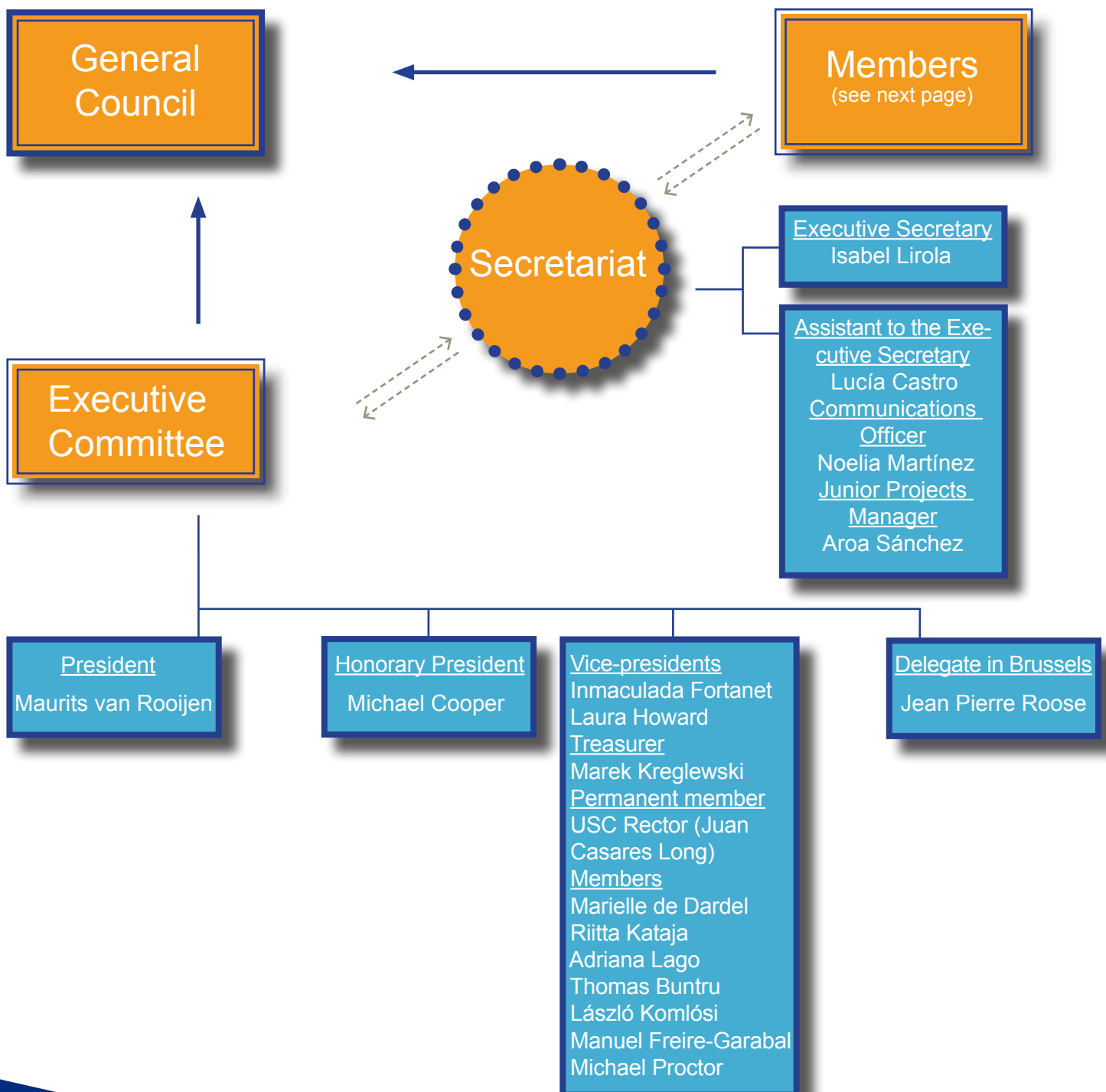
I look forward to seeing you in Nantes.

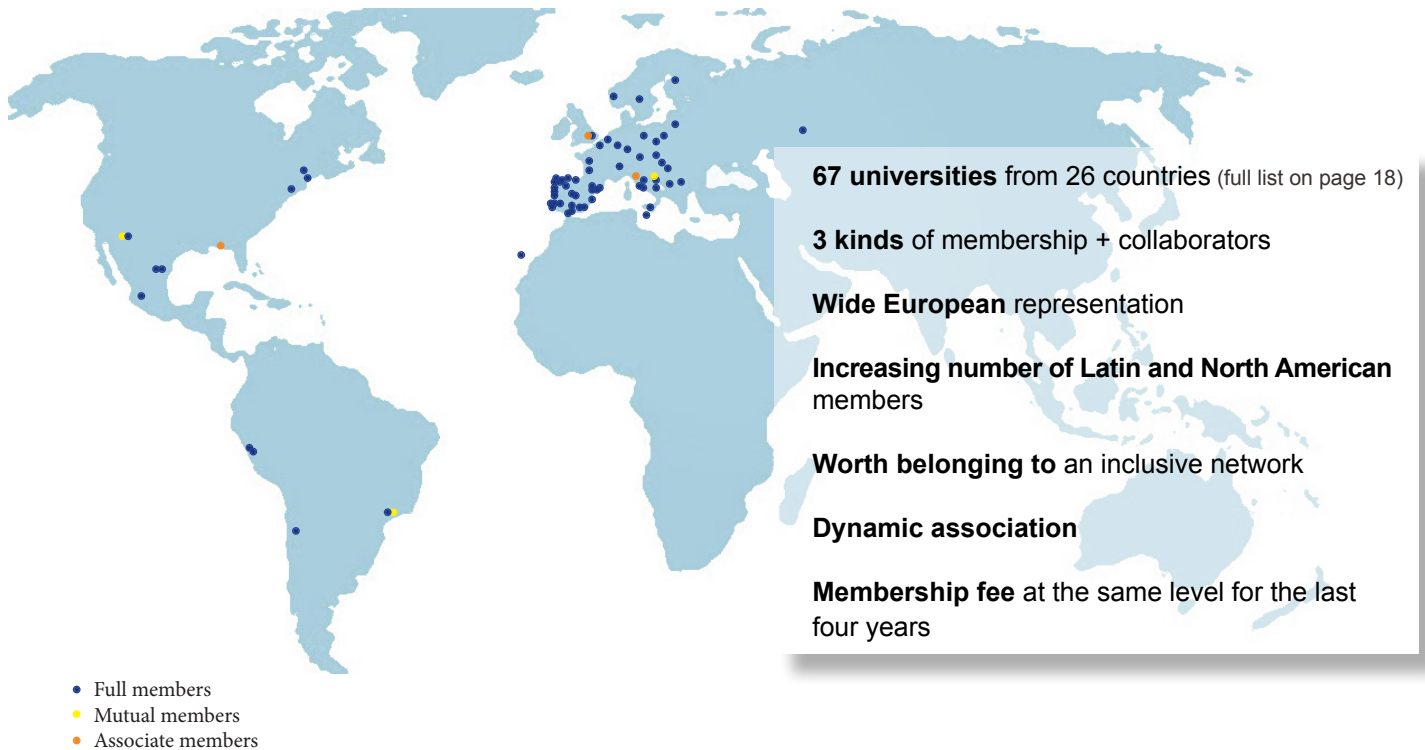
Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Maurits van Rooijen'.

Maurits van Rooijen, President of the CGU

The CGU's Structure 2012-2013





Kinds of membership

Full members: universities.

Associate: enterprises, publishing houses and other commercial organisations.

Mutual: institutions, associations, scientific complexes, foundations, etc.

Collaborators: agreements with key institutions.

New members in 2012-2013

- Drexel University (United States of America)
- Università degli Studi 'Link Campus University' (Italy)
- Pan-European University (Slovakia)
- InEurope 2020 s.r.l. (Italy)



Representation at international conferences and events

The Compostela Group of Universities' Delegate in Brussels, Jean Pierre Roose, provides our association with an immediate link with the political capital of Europe. This is especially interesting as far as projects funded by the European Commission (EC) are concerned. Having direct contact in person with partners and EC staff is a very important asset the CGU has gained in recent years. In 2013, Jean Pierre had several meetings with other associations in order to prepare project proposals, attended ongoing projects' meetings (such as Erasmus without Papers') and represented the CGU at conferences, such as the Polifonia meeting of the Association Européenne des Conservatoires.

The Executive Committee is currently composed of 13 representatives of different universities. All of them act as ambassadors of the Group in their areas. They attend the relevant events related to Higher Education, which this year included: NAFSA, the EAIE, AMPEI, student fairs in Mexico, Colombia and other countries, the Summit CELAC-UE, AIEA Annual Conference, Going Global 2013, APAIE Conference, CONAHEC

Each member university names a delegate for the CGU. Therefore, we can say the CGU has 67 representatives in 26 countries.

Conference and seminars (like "Europeanise your internationalisation strategy", organised by the Internationalisation Unit of Universities UK, or the OSAC "Health, Safety, and Security" Seminar).

One significant event worth highlighting is the Conference on "Economy, Stress and Health", which took place on 17-18 July 2013 in A Coruña and Santiago de Compostela. During this event, international experts analysed the close relationship between the economic crisis and health issues among the European population. The CGU's President, Maurits van Rooijen and a member of its Executive Committee, Manuel Freire-Garabal, together with the other participants wrote a joint declaration asking political leaders and policy makers "to become fully aware and consider health in addition to other impacts of any actions under consideration to address the current economic and fiscal crisis" and other specific measures. This document will be presented at the CGU's General Assembly (Nantes, 19th September 2013).



Participants in the Conference on 'Economy, Stress and Health'



International Prize Grupo Compostela-Xunta de Galicia

2012



The Rector of the College of Europe, Paul Demaret, accepted the XVI Prize as highest representative of his institution during the XIX General Assembly of the Compostela Group of Universities, which took place at the University of Oulu (Finland) in September 2012. During his speech, he emphasized that the College of Europe will keep on working to teach the importance of more Europe and increase to the mutual understanding of the diverse people living in this continent.

2013



In July 2013, the President of the CGU, Maurits van Rooijen, announced that the XVII Prize is being awarded to Euronews. Through this award, the organizers recognize the work of this TV channel as a creator and transmitter of news stories from a European point of view. The Euronews Delegate in Spain welcomed the Prize and presented his company to the media. Euronews will accept the award at the General Assembly (Nantes 19-21 September, 2013).

What is this Prize?

Jointly organized with the Xunta de Galicia, it is conceived as an annual award granted to a person or institution that has stood out through their work in promoting the European dimension in education. The award ceremony takes place every year during the General Assembly of the CGU, e.g. in 2013 it will be held on 20 September at the University of Nantes (France).

Who can nominate and when?

Member universities of the Compostela Group, the Xunta de Galicia, other official European institutions and the members of the Jury are invited to send their nominations. The next call for nominations will be open during the General Assembly (see page 17 for more information).

Stella Programme

Stella 2013 exceeded all the previous editions by granting 19 administrative staff exchanges between European and American universities, five more than in 2012. Each participant received 1.083 euros. The support of the Compostela Group for training, especially during these financially difficult times, is much appreciated by its members, who find Stella to be one of the most interesting activities and main benefits of the CGU membership.

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Key facts on STELLA

- STELLA is a **mobility programme** addressed to the **administrative staff** at the CGU's member universities.
- The Secretariat gathers a **list of departments offered** by the institutions and makes it available to its members.
- The CGU **grants** a number of intercontinental mobilities every year.
- **One/two weeks stays** allow the participants to share experience and get to know how to improve their work.
- **The latest call** was launched in September 2013.



Nieves Muñoz, from the University of Jaen got a STELLA grant in 2013 and visited the University Mayor (Chile) in May

“STELLA is a very interesting experience, you get many ideas to improve your work”

José Luis Rosales, STELLA 2012,
Pontifical Catholic University of Peru

STELLA Junior

Stella Junior is an initiative of the Compostela Group to support training mobility of students around the world. The CGU will offer a permanent updated database where the students belonging to its member universities will be able to find tailored training placement offers at other CGU universities or institutions. Placements will last a minimum of 2 weeks and a maximum of 12 months.

The next call for placement offers and its conditions will be presented at the General Assembly.

Compostela Group of Universities' IInd International Video Contest

After the very succesful pilot edition of the Compostela Group of Universities' International Video Contest, it was clear that this activity should be repeated in 2013. The objective was the same: to award to the most original promotional video of a HE institution and the CGU made by a student of one of its member universities. The contest was launched in October 2012 and 'Future', a video by two students of the University of Monterrey (UDEM, Mexico), was elected as the winner in June 2013.

The video "Future", presented by María Fernanda Flota Rodríguez and Miguel Tafich, students from the University of Monterrey (Mexico), was selected as the winning entry of the II International Video Contest of the Compostela Group of Universities (CGU).



Among the videos presented, all of them high quality, the Jury (composed of 5 representatives of the

members of the association and its Vice-President) unanimously decided to choose this video because of its outstanding originality and technical level. The winners have been invited to the CGU's XIX General Assembly, where their video will played and they will receive an awarding diploma.

The call for expressions of interest to participate in the CGU's IIIrd International Video Contest will be open in October 2013. Show the impressive work your students can do!

Who can participate?

All the CGU members can join the contest. Each university will be in charge of making an selection (up to 3 videos **made by students**), that will be sent to the CGU's Secretariat.

Topic: the CGU gives 5 options (you can find them in the "Terms & Conditions" document), among which the student should choose one.

Technical requirements: the recording can be made using any kind of device and can be edited afterwards.

Maximum length: 1 minute 30 seconds.

Language for the videos: English or with subtitles in correct English.

Logos of the university and the Compostela Group's should be present in the whole video.

IIIrd edition launching: October 2013.

Winner IInd Edition: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pSmOVm1yWXk>

Workshops

The CGU, jointly with other entities, is organising a number of workshops in 2013. Three of them take place within the framework of the EMMA Project.

Together with an organization for university collaboration, Brussels Education Services (BES), an employer organization, Vlaams Economisch Verbond (VOKA) and an association of students, the Erasmus Mundus Association (EMA), the Compostela Group of Universities is holding EMMA Project workshops in January, May and September 2013.



The first two workshops focused on the five priorities set by the European Commission in the Communication 'Supporting Growth and Jobs – an Agenda for the Modernisation of Europe's Higher Education Systems': increasing the attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers that Europe needs, improving the quality and relevance of higher education, strengthening the quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation, making the knowledge triangle work and improving governance and funding. The last EMMA project workshop will take place during the CGU's General Assembly. It will be mainly concerned with presenting a publication on the conclusions that were reached

through the previous workshops' discussions.

The CGU organised other joint workshop on 4 June 2013 in Brussels, this time in collaboration with UNICA and the Santander Group. The topic, Academic Collaboration between European and Sub-Saharan Universities, attracted many CGU members.

Finally, this year's General Assembly's workshop will be devoted to "Internationalising students' academic curricula through global mobility" and will take place in the morning of Friday 20 September, 2013.

Publications

As mentioned above, the workshops of the EMMA Project resulted in the publication of a book of recommendations based on the opinions of the participants. This document is addressed to the European Commission as a response from the Compostela Group to the key issues listed in its Communication. At the same time, the recommendations will constitute a source of inspiration for the CGU and its counterparts and they will, without doubt, be very beneficial for the wider European Higher Education Area. Adopting strategies and concentrating resources in a number of priorities are some of the general recommendations.

Another publication coordinated by the CGU was the 'Guide of Good Practices TEMPUS CORINTHIAM'. This book focuses on the distinctive pillars of the Corinthiam project: management of international relations, management of international projects, Internationalization at Home, quality of internationalisation and learning experiences of piloting ECTS at third-country institutions.

The Compostela Group of Universities will distribute one copy per member university.

Participation in Projects Funded by the EU (2012-2013)

PROJECT	FULL NAME	TYPE & NUMBER	AIMS	CGU's ROLE
CORINTHIAM	Central Offices Responsible for the Integration at Home of Internationalization as Assurance of Quality in the Mediterranean Region	TEMPUS IV 159186-2009-1-BE-SM-GR	Preparation for participation in the Bologna Process, implementation of recognition systems between Middle East institutions and EU partners. Preparation for the contribution of internationalisation to the strategic development of the partner institutions at a medium and long term.	Coordination of a work package, dissemination, and quality monitoring.
IMOTION	IMOTION - Erasmus Staff Week	Life Long Learning Programme 538524-LLP-1-2013-1-BE-ERASMUS-EAM	Creation of an online platform that will collect and display staff training at the European level and provide easy accessible information. The idea is to create a centralised source of information at the European level where everybody who is interested in staff training can find the necessary information.	Associate partners for dissemination.
UMEI	Universities in the Maghreb: Inclusive Education	TEMPUS 516982-TEMPUS-1-2001-1-BE-TEMPUS-JPCR	Widening the access to Higher Education, focusing on students with difficult economic backgrounds, with disabilities and from rural areas.	Associate partners for dissemination.
CERES	Clean Energy and Research in Environmental Studies	TEMPUS 517401-TEMPUS-1-2011-1-ES-TEMPUS-JPCR	Responding to the current demands of the labour and energy sectors for competent and well trained engineers in the fields of energy and environment (establishing master programmes, a centre of excellence for consultants, tailored training programmes for engineers, etc.).	Monitoring.
EDUCA	Educational Management for Central Asia	TEMPUS 517504-TEMPUS-1-2011-1-ES-TEMPUS-JPCR (2011-2561)	Reformation and modernization of the pedagogical education system in three countries of Central Asia in terms of its orientation to the best practices of European education area.	Coordination of a work package, dissemination and training of experts.
BABEL	Building Academic Bonds with Europe and Latin America	Erasmus Mundus	Implementation of a minimum of 100 mobility flows of Latin American students (undergraduate, master and doctorate level), researchers and staff members willing to undertake a mobility period or full degree (depending on the type of mobility) in one of the European partner institutions. Depending on the type of mobility, this mobility period may vary between 1 month (for staff only) to 36 months (for full doctorate students).	Associate partners for dissemination, sharing know-how on key topics and participation in the discussion of management aspects of the consortium.
MOVER	EMA-MOVER	ERASMUS MUNDUS Action 2 N/A	Contributing to the TC's (Third Countries) challenges, as posed in their national plans of development, by upgrading the academic level (particularly postgraduate) of students and staff and promoting the design of joint degrees between the EU and the TC partners while encouraging the emergence of new ones in the TC institutions.	Associate partners for dissemination.

Participation in Projects Funded by the EU (2012-2013)

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PROJECT	FULL NAME	TYPE & NUMBER	AIMS	CGU's ROLE
EMMA	Embracing of Modernization Agenda	Lifelong Learning Programme 526421-LLP-1-2012-1-ES-ERASMUS-EAM	Focused on the EC's Communication on the Modernisation of Europe's HE Systems. Specific objectives: increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs, improving the quality and relevance of higher education, strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation, making the knowledge triangle (education - research - business) work in respect of excellence and regional development and improving governance and funding	Project coordinator; financial and administrative management; contacts with DG Education and Culture and the Executive Agency (EACEA), among others.
PEACE	Program for Excellence Academy Cooperation Exchange	ERASMUS MUNDUS Action 2	Development of further collaboration among EU and Middle East Institutions for sending and hosting mobility of talented students and staff, enhancement capacity, transparency and employability as well as skills and qualification of institutions and individuals.	Associate partners for dissemination.
PEACE II	Program for Excellence Academy Cooperation Exchange II	Erasmus Mundus	Promoting mobility between Latin America and Europe students at bachelor (exchange), master (exchange/degree), PhD (exchange/degree), post-doctorate (exchange), administrative and academic staff (exchange) levels.	The CGU will participate as associate partner to promote and disseminate the activities and the results of the project.
EMAIL II	EMAIL II	Erasmus Mundus Action 2	Widening the access to Higher Education, focusing on students with difficult economic backgrounds, with disabilities and from rural areas.	Associate partners for dissemination.
EMAIL III	EMAIL III	Erasmus Mundus Action 2 - Lot 12	Widening the access to Higher Education, focusing on students with difficult economic backgrounds, with disabilities and from rural areas.	Associate partners for dissemination.

The team

Executive Secretary

Dr. Isabel Lirola

Secretariat

Assistant to the Executive Secretariat

Lucía Castro

lucia.castro@usc.es

Communications Officer

Noelia Martínez

noelia.martinez.cagiao@usc.es

Junior Projects Manager

Aroa Sánchez

aroa.sanchez@usc.es

Our tasks

- **Coordinating the activities of the Group** (EU projects, Stella Program, workshops, meetings of the Executive Committee, General Assembly, etc.).
- **Assisting and supporting members' requests** (searching for different kinds of information, contacts, dissemination of their initiatives...).
- **Communicating different activities** run by the Compostela Group not only to its members, but also to society in general.
- **Managing and updating the Group's website.**

Permanent communications along the year

Website and social media

-  Everyday
-  Permanent flow of news coming from the CGU, its members and other institutions.
- ✓ Send us your news! 20 lines, in English of interest to other members.

Newsflashes

-  Every Friday
-  Containing: main CGU news of the week + Agenda + Last calls
-  Available to non-members by subscription on the website

Newsletters

-  Every 4 months (Sept/Jan/June approximately)
-  Containing the main news of the period
-  Available to non-members by subscription on the website
- ✓ Always with some space for our members' news
-  The September edition serves as a brief report on the General Assembly

Calendar

-  CGU events + other networks'

Activities' communications (see page 16)

Leaflets

Annual report



Extraordinary communications

Urgent announcements via e-mail

Communications on activities

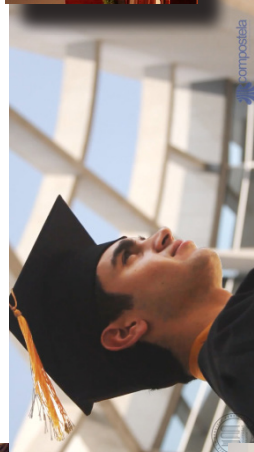




Meeting with Neelie Kroes, Vice-President of the European Commission and Commissioner for Digital Agenda. She was awarded the International Prize Grupo Compostela-Xunta de Galicia in 2011



The first EXMA Project workshop took place in Brussels on 25-26 February 2013



'Future', a video by Fernanda Flota and Miguel Tafich, students from the University of Monterrey (Mexico), won the CGU's 99 International Video Contest



Aroa Sánchez joined the CGU's Secretariat as Junior Projects Manager



Group picture taken during the CGU's XV99 General Assembly, which was held at the U. of Oulu (Finland)



Press conference to announce the winner of the XV99 International Prize Grupo Compostela-Xunta de Galicia, Euroneus



On 24 May 2013 the second EXMA Project workshop was held in Brussels



Welcoming new members from Italy, Slovakia and the United States of America



Meeting of the Jury of the International Prize Grupo Compostela-Xunta de Galicia

Calendar

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Relevant coming dates

September 2013	October 2013	November 2013
19-21 General Assembly 19 Call for nominations Grupo Compostela-Xunta Prize 19 STELLA Programme launching 20 STELLA Junior launching 27 Newsletter on the General Assembly	15 Launching of Video Contest 31 Deadline to submit Letter of Endorsement and Offer Form	22 Deadline to send to Secretariat the Letter of Endorsement 29 The universities start their internal contests/promote the CGU's
December 2013	January 2014	February 2014
	31 Deadline for the staff to submit their application forms	- Newsletter (after Ex.Com. meeting) 15 Deadline for the coordinator to select max. 2 candidates - Steering Committee meeting
March 2014	April 2014	May 2014
- Announcement of selection of participants and grants - The mobility period starts 14 Deadline for nominations - Online meeting of the Jury	30 Deadline to send to the Secretariat the selected videos to join the CGU contest - Press conference to announce winner	- Deliberation of the Jury
June 2014	July 2014	August 2014
- Public announcement of the winner - Newsletter (after Ex.Com. meeting)		- Preparation General Assembly
September 2014		
- XX CGU's General Assembly - Presentation of the Prize to the winner - Presentation of the Prize to the winner		

General assemblies

STELLA Programme

STELLA Junior

Newsletters

Video Contest

International Prize Grupo Compostela-Xunta de Galicia

Full members**Belgium**

Erasmus University College Brussels

Brazil

UNESP-Universidade Estadual Paulista
'Julio de Mesquita Filho'

Bulgaria

University Chemical Technology and
Metallurgy

Chile

Universidad Mayor

Czech Republic

Masaryk University, Brno

Finland

University of Oulu

France

University of Bordeaux I
University of Nantes

Germany

International School of Management
Philipps-Universität Marburg
University of Regensburg

Hungary

Pécs University

Italy

University of Foggia
University of Perugia
Fundazione Link Campus University
Kore University of Enna
International Telematic University
UNINETTUNO

Kosovo

University of Prishtina

Lithuania

International School of Law and
Business

Malta

University of Malta

Mexico

Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios
Superiores de Monterrey

Universidad de Monterrey
University of Guadalajara

Norway

University of Bergen

Peru

Pontifical Catholic University of Peru
University of Lima

Poland

Adam Mickiewicz University
University of Łódź
Pultusk Academy of Humanities

Portugal

Catholic University of Portugal
University of Aveiro
University of Évora
University of Lisbon
University of Minho
University of Porto

Russia

Saratov State Socio-Economic University

Slovakia

Pan-European University

Slovenia

EMUNI University

Spain

University of A Coruña
University of Almería
University of the Basque Country
University of Cadiz
University of Cantabria
Comillas Pontifical University
University of Extremadura
Universitat Jaume I
University of Girona
University of Jaen
University of Leon
University of Lleida
Malaga University
University of Oviedo
University of Las Palmas de Gran
Canaria
Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena
Rovira i Virgili University
University of Santiago de Compostela
Technical University of Madrid
University of Vigo



University of Zaragoza

Sweden

Karlstad University

Switzerland

University of Fribourg

The Netherlands

Nyenrode Business University

United Kingdom

Roehampton University

United States of America

Northeastern University
University of Arizona
University of Drexel
University of Massachusetts Lowell

Associate members

-CHE Consult-Centre for Higher
Education Development Consult GmbH
(Germany)
- Going Global (USA)
-i-graduate-International Graduate Insight
Group (United Kingdom)

Mutual memberships

-CONAHEC-Consortium for
North American Higher Education
Collaboration
- EMUNI Centre
-FAUBAI Forum of the Brazilian
Universities Assessories to International
Matters (Brazil)

Collaborators

Apart from the members, the CGU
actively collaborated with other
networks and entities related to
Higher Education such as UNICA,
WACE, EPUF, EAN, MODERN,
EDNET, EUA, Santander Group,
Fundación Galicia Europa, Xunta de
Galicia.

**Permanent Secretariat**

Casa da Cuncha, Rúa da Conga, 1.

PC: 15782. Santiago de Compostela (Spain)

Tel.: 0034 881 812 931 / Fax: 0034 881 812 932

e-mail: lucia.castro@usc.es

noelia.martinez.cagiao@usc.es

aroa.sanchez@usc.es

Delegation in Brussels

Boîte postale 1550. Bruxelles De Brouckère

BE-1000 Bruxelles (Belgium)

Tel.: 0032 477 520 133

compostela.brussels@gmail.com

www.gcompostela.org